

# THE Hongkong Weekly Press

## AND China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LVIII.]

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### BIRTHS.

On the 19th November, at Kamakura, the wife of J. E. DE BECKER, of a son.

On the 20th November, at Fairy Glen, Martin Road, Singapore, the wife of FREDERICK KEARUP, of a son.

On the 21st November, at Shanghai, the wife of THOS. J. ROCHE, of a son.

On the 22nd November, at Ningpo, the wife of H. E. WAHLSTROM, s.s. Kiangteen, of a son.

At the Peak, Hongkong, on S. Andrew's Day, Mr. and Mrs. ANDREW DONALD, of Green Island, Macao, of a son.

On the 2nd December, at No. 9, Queen's Gardens, the wife of H. JESSEN, of a son.

### MARRIAGES.

On the 21st November, at H.R.M. Consulate-General, Shanghai, and later at Union Church, by the Rev. C. E. DAWENT, M.A., FREDERICK WILLIAM FOWLER to EDITH SAYLE.

On the 21st November, at the Holy Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, by the Rev. C. J. F. SYMONS, B.A., GEORGE H. Y. PHILLIPS, of Shanghai, son of JOHN PHILLIPS, of Manchester, to ANNIE P. MELLOR, eldest daughter of the late GEORGE MELLOR, of Sheffield.

### DEATHS.

On the 17th November, at Butterworth, Province Wellesley, CHARLES PHILLIP, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. C. T. ADAMSON, aged 26 days.

On the 19th November, at Nagasaki, the wife of C. H. HAGMEYER.

On the 21st November, at Shanghai, JAMES HENRY MACHAGALAN, aged 50 years.

On the 22nd November, at the General Hospital, Shanghai, JOHN ROBERT STOKER, Electrician, Old Dock.

### Hongkong Weekly Press

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.  
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

### ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The French Mail of the 30th Oct. arrived per s.s. *Salazie*, on the 1st inst. (31 days); and the English Mail of the 6th ult. is due to arrive per s.s. *Simla*, to-day.

### EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The two new Chilean warships, which have recently been completed in England, have been sold. It is supposed that Japan is the purchaser.

A telegram from Paris, published in New York, states that Russia and Japan have practically agreed on a basis for a treaty for settling the Far Eastern situation.

Admiral Sir Cyprian Bridge was the only recipient of the Knight Grand Cross of the Bath in the King's Birthday Honours List. Admiral Bridge is expected at Shanghai on the 16th inst.; his intention is to remain through the winter and until the arrival of his successor, Sir Gerard Noel, K.C.B.

The London *Morning Post* has reason to believe that the Chinese Government has decided to refuse to permit recruiting for labourers for the South African mines in any part of the Chinese Empire, owing particularly to the Canadian legislation specifically directed against the immigration of Chinese labourers, which the Chinese Government keenly resents.

The *Japan Mail*, commenting on a prediction in vernacular papers that the coming session of the Japanese Diet will be stormy, says:—This kind of commotion is evidently inevitable. What it portends is that the nation, growing weary of suspense, which is inflicting heavy losses daily, may force the Government's hand and precipitate a collision with Russia. The latter may then be disposed to disavow the responsibility of a bloody issue. But unless the public are greatly mistaken it is Russia and Russia alone that causes the delay. Rumour says that Baron Kosen has again been obliged to refer to St. Petersburg for instructions, and probably St. Petersburg will behave with its wonted leisure in formulating them.

It is stated in St. Petersburg that the present position of the negotiations being carried on between Russia and Japan is as follows. While insisting on the ultimate recognition of treaty rights, open ports, and the integrity of Chinese sovereignty in Manchuria, Japan has agreed to leave these questions in abeyance; she will recognise Russia's dominant interests there at the present time, and will not obstruct her solution of the Manchurian problem. In return, Japan insists on the recognition of her influence in Corea, and the opening of Yong-ampho and other ports. Russia is willing to make some concessions, but opposes the opening of Yong-ampho, declaring that it will threaten her interests, and complicate the situation in Manchuria.

The N.-C. *Daily News* correspondent telegraphs under date Tokyo, 27th November:—There is no change or improvement in the situation. Baron Komura, Minister for Foreign Affairs, presented his final overtures at the end of October, and there is still no reply from Russia. The papers are full of loud complaints of Russia's procrastination.

It appears that there is an understanding between Great Britain and China to hold Tibet against Russia in the event of the necessity arising. Reuter's Agency learns that the Tibet expedition will advance to Gyantse, the second town in Tibet on the road to Lhasa, and then attempt to re-open negotiations. Neither the permanent occupation of Gyantse nor the advance to Lhasa is at present intended, and the date of advance is not fixed.

The Japanese Government is reported to be considering the opening of a mail service between Nagasaki and Dalny, the object of the new service being the transmission of the mails for connection with the Siberian route. Such a service the Government proposes should consist of one steamer of at least 1,200 tons with a speed of 18 knots. A subsidy of 75,000 yen a year has been proposed, but it is thought that the service could not be made to pay unless the sum were increased.

A conference of the Chambers of Commerce in the northern half of Japan at Tokyo on the 16th and 17th ult. is reported by the N.-C. D.N.'s Japan correspondent, relative to a proposal, to start an agitation in favour of a protective policy for Japanese foreign trade. This suggestion was first mooted at the recent conference at Osaka of the Chambers of Commerce throughout the Empire. A resolution adopted on the 17th urges on the Japanese Government the necessity of resorting to a protective policy and of instantly carrying out enquiries for that purpose. Another resolution adopted binds those Chambers which participated in the Tokyo conference to undertake similar investigations independently and to report the result to the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce at the end of every month. The Yokohama Chamber was not represented at the meeting.

The *Universal Gazette* is informed by its Ningpo correspondent that since the anti-Romanist riot in Ninghai, Chekiang, the local civil and military officials have been ordered by Governor Nieh to be sent to Hangchow for trial; several rioters have been beheaded and \$7000 reward offered for the capture of the leader Wang Lib-tung, who is still at large. The Roman Catholic Bishop is greatly displeased with what he considers the apathetic efforts of the authorities to capture the said leader. The Consul-General at Shanghai has, at the request of the Bishop, telegraphed to Governor Nieh complaining that Wang had not been arrested and stating that if he was not arrested in 7 days he would request the French Admiral to send gunboats to Ninghai, otherwise the case would never be settled. Governor Nieh after receiving the above telegram at once wired the French Consul-General asking him not to carry out his intention and at the same time strictly ordered the local authorities to increase their efforts in effecting the capture of the escaped bandit leader.



## THE SITUATION IN THE NORTH.

(Daily Press, 28th November.)

The foreign policy of the Chinese Government may, at the present moment, with great correctness, be described as "wobbly." The Empress Dowager and her advisers appear to be halting between two opinions—swayed by the hopes and fears of each day as it comes. One day the Court is keen for a Japanese alliance, and war with Russia; the next they are filled with doubt whether, after all, it would not be safer to side with the North-ern Colossus. A Peking telegram to the *Kobe Herald*, dated the 8th inst., states that Prince Su had laid his views on the question before the Empress Dowager to the effect that, in his opinion, if Manchuria were surrendered to Russia it would inevitably entail dismemberment of the Chinese Empire. It would be well therefore, for the Chinese Government to induce Japan to assist in preserving the integrity of Manchuria, and in return accord to that Power some special privilege in the province. He also advocated the opening of negotiations with Russia for the fulfilment of the agreement for the evacuation of Manchuria, and in the event of her refusing to comply with this demand, to join Japan in declaring war against her. The Japanese Minister at Peking is said to have had a secret conference with Prince CHING and Grand Councillors CHU HUNG-CHI and LI CHUAN-LIN and the Viceroy YUAN SHI-KAI and CHANG CHIH-TUNG on the 2nd inst., which lasted two hours and a half. It is also stated that the Empress Dowager has been urged by her Ministers to conclude an alliance with Japan, and it seemed at one time pretty certain that overtures to that end would be made. Some of the Censors have also presented patriotic memorials to the Throne advocating war to the death with Russia for the preservation of the integrity of the Empire, and one of them suggested, as to ways and means, that it would be well to stop all present schemes relating to reform and the establishment of schools for instruction in Western learning, and to apply the money to the purchase of arms and ammunition.

Indeed there is abundant evidence that, in North China at any rate, there is strong antagonism to Russia, and that if a really able and patriotic leader appeared, a determined effort would be made to evict the Russians from Manchuria. But the strong man is not there, and the strong woman is. The Emperor Dowager is supreme, and while one day she is inclined to listen to anti-Russian counsels, on the next she gives her ear to more timid advice. The latest report, made on a reliable authority, is to the effect that the notorious eunuch LI LIEN-LING has got Her Majesty's ear and has been strenuously urging her not to listen to Prince Su's dangerous advice, but to patch up an agreement with Russia as soon as possible. The Emperor is said to have all along been strongly in favour of the Japanese, and the Empress Dowager was for some time favourably inclined to that course, but since the persuasions of the eunuch LI, Her Majesty has become very undecided. Very little, probably, would turn the balance, and if war should break out between Japan and Russia, the Chinese Government would throw in its lot with the one that scored the first great success. Meantime the talk at Peking is distinctly warlike, and, though very little importance is attached by foreigners to the line the Chinese take, since their vacillation is as apparent as their weakness, yet this vapouring is a sign of Chinese opinion and inclination. It is reported that CHANG

CHIH-TUNG has been appointed Generalissimo of the forces to oppose the Russians in Manchuria, in command of the first line of defence and to organise succeeding armies of foreign-drilled troops. Without outside assistance, it is needless to say, the Chinese line of defence would be broken by the Russian army almost as easily as a spider's web.

Meantime the position grows daily more tense in Japan. On the 10th inst. a great meeting of nobles, gentry, and merchants was held in Tokyo to consider the situation, and after some very resolved speeches, declaring that Japan could not accept an injurious peace, the following resolution was passed without a single dissident:—"We believe that to suffer the situation to remain unsettled as at present is not the way to safeguard our country's interest or to preserve the peace of the Far East. Therefore the whole country unites in urging that the officials concerned have recourse at once to a decided policy." The Japanese are weary of Russian excuses and procrastination, and have no faith in Russian assurances; consequently, while profoundly anxious to maintain peace if possible, they are not prepared to maintain it at any price. The danger is therefore that some day Muscovite eagerness will precipitate a fresh forward movement which will lead to hostilities. Both countries are armed to the teeth; both have laid up vast stores in readiness for war while professing the most earnest desire for peace; and unless both are merely playing a big game of bluff it is almost inevitable that a day will come when the torch will, perhaps inadvertently, be applied to the combustible forces. The fact that it is generally believed in Japan that Russia is purposely provoking the Japanese Government is not calculated to have a pacific effect in the land of the Rising Sun, where the population have for some time been eager to measure their strength with Russia. The Mikado's Government, however, have shown a wise and commendable prudence, and have evidently determined to exhaust all the resources of diplomacy before allowing the country to drift into a struggle which would be fraught with such tremendous consequences.

## RUSSIA'S PACIFIC INTENTIONS

(Daily Press, 3rd December.)

COUNT LAMSDORFF, our London correspondent informs us, is reported to have just made a speech declaring the pacific intentions of Russia. Other telegrams assert that the prospect of a peaceful settlement of the present crisis in the Far East are good. The mail which arrived yesterday from home indicated that a month ago the highest Russian authorities were endeavouring to persuade France directly, and the rest of Europe indirectly, that peace was the one great desire of the St. Petersburg Government. On the 30th October M. LOUBET communicated to the Cabinet Council held that day at the Elysée, in Paris, the text of a letter received by him from the Tsar, in which the latter expressed his satisfaction at what had recently happened in France, including the recent agreement with Great Britain, in which he saw "a new pledge for the maintenance of general peace, which is the constant aim of his policy, and hence an additional reason why the friendly and allied nations, sure of one another, should at every opportunity continue to show the perfect harmony of their views, and their solidarity, based on their mutual sympathy and their respective interests." The letter is also said to have expressed

the hope that France would "co-operate in the work of peace, in order to bring about a happy and innocuous solution of the questions awaiting settlement in the Far as well as in the Near East." About the same time Count LAMSDORFF, Russian Foreign Minister, informed M. DELCASSÉ that the dispute with Japan was on the way to arrangement and that matters in connection with Manchuria would soon be settled. In the meanwhile, as REUTER has told us, three-quarters of the whole Russian fleet is either massed in the Pacific already or on its way out thither, and the number of troops in North-east Asia is being constantly augmented. How are we to reconcile feverish war preparations with pacific declarations? *Si vis pacem para bellum* is an old motto, but it is somewhat cynical, and we cannot imagine that Russia is likely to plead it in defence of her present conduct. It has been pointed out in the *Times* that, in virtue of the new dispositions taken in St. Petersburg in connection with the recently founded Viceroyalty of the Far East, the affairs of Russia in this part of the world are no longer within the jurisdiction of the Foreign Office at St. Petersburg; and that the new Department seems bent on keeping its own secrets as far as possible. Still the movements of troops and ships do not depend on the will of the Far Eastern Department, but must be with the full sanction of St. Petersburg. How the inconsistency of Russia's words and acts is to be explained, we could not attempt to say, though there is the very obvious hypothesis that the words are merely meant to deceive. This, of course, involves the supposition that the Tsar has lent himself to the designs of his Ministers, either consciously or unconsciously. We can hardly think it could be consciously. If he too has been deceived then the situation is more serious still, for while his good faith is generally accepted he is also expected to know what his Ministers are doing.

It has been plain for some time that Russia earnestly desires to persuade France that the interests of both lie in the same direction. Only six weeks ago the *Novoe Vremya* argued that Russia can rely on neither Japan nor China, as the interests of both clash with those of Russia, and that France is the only Power whose position is identical to that of Russia, and whose interests are the same. Therefore, the *Novoe Vremya* says, every Russian in the Far East must develop and extend the Franco-Russian Alliance, for it is "so rich in possibilities and so full of importance to Russia at every critical moment of the latter's existence." This the French are not disposed to deny. But some of them at least would like to know what France gets out of the alliance to make up for the very clear benefits which accrue to Russia. Not even in commercial matters does France find any adequate return, while in political affairs the advantage is hugely in favour of Russia. If the wild dreams of French expansionists in South China were to succeed—and there is more than a suspicion that the "forward" policy is very shortly to be revived—then Russia might repay France by backing up her schemes with moral support, as it is called. Such policy would embroil France directly with Great Britain, but of this the expansionists are careless, for one of the bases of their conduct is violent Anglo-phobia. We are loth to believe that the French Government is prepared to let the intriguers of the Colonial Party once more plunge it into difficulties; but, as we have said, there is ground for suspicion that trouble may be brewing. We may have something more to say about this shortly.



## CHINA AND SOUTH AFRICA.

(Daily Press, 4th December.)

The statement made by the London *Morning Post* to the effect that the Chinese Government has decided to refuse to permit recruiting for labourers for the South African mines in any part of the Chinese Empire as a measure of retaliation for the anti-Chinese legislation in Canada requires confirmation before being accepted. It would not, however, be the first time China has attempted to get even with States that have seen fit to adopt a policy of Chinese exclusion. The Chinese Government has never been much in favour of Chinese emigration. An edict was passed, more than half a century ago, prohibiting emigration, and this has never been repealed though it has suited the Chinese Government to allow it to remain a dead letter. The advantages of emigration have made themselves felt, by the amount of money brought back to China by returning emigrants, and by the development of trade with the countries to which the Chinese have migrated. But these advantages are not without certain drawbacks. The emigration drains many districts of able-bodied males; without whose labours it is difficult to cultivate the soil successfully, and in some parts the agriculture has suffered. Moreover, it is incidentally a blow to Chinese vanity to be told that Chinese labour is unacceptable. The Peking authorities were very indignant when the United States Government passed their stringent laws for the exclusion of Chinese coolies, and they are now as much annoyed by the restrictions imposed on the landing of Chinese coolies in Australia and Canada. The fact that the Chinese compete successfully in the labour market with white labourers does not, in the opinion of the Chinese Government, constitute any valid reason why they should be excluded from those countries; and the Chinese Government are, not unnaturally, little inclined to permit their people to be made use of when needed and to be denied admission when they are found unwelcome. Nevertheless the Chinese Imperial Government is ordinarily more or less indifferent to the condition of those subjects of the Dragon Throne as may prove so ill-advised as to seek to better their fortunes in another land. They are prepared to profit by their enterprise, but they do not care to take any trouble to protect them against adverse legislation. It is possible, however, that the Chinese Government has, for some reason or other, seen fit to rouse up from its accustomed apathy and find a grim satisfaction in laying a veto on the engagement of coolies to work in South Africa.

If this should turn out to be the case, we doubt not that it will prove to the ultimate advantage of South Africa. The British colonies there have, it seems to us, quite a sufficient number of racial questions to agitate them without another being added, to complicate still further their politics. They have the Boers to assimilate, the blacks and browns (Kaffirs and Hottentots) to control and educate, the Indian immigrants to protect and to check, and the Continental European element to watch and keep in strict limits, and they do not need another population which will be more or less antagonistic and unsympathetic with all the rest. Most of these Colonies are adapted for the home of the Caucasian; he can labour there in the open air, and reap the fruits of the earth. There is no reason for resorting to Asiatic labour except the great scarcity of European workmen, and it is by no means proved that it is impossible to procure the

latter. More encouragement should be given to white labour, and there is no doubt that it would be more resorted to if a higher rate of wages could be offered. The Chinese would not prove so much cheaper; they do not spend anything like the same proportion of their earnings in the country, and they would not, in any case, settle down on the soil. Nor would they be altogether desirable citizens even if they could be allowed or induced to naturalise. A few of the more intelligent might do so, but the rank and file would, as in other colonies, merely be birds of passage, retaining their own manners and customs, importing much of their own food, and perpetuating their own vices. Some temporary benefit would result from their employment by the development of the mining industry and perhaps some convenience be derived by their use as domestic servants, but in the long run the good would be counterbalanced by the introduction of another foreign and disturbing element in the racial problem, and the consequent postponement of that much-to-be-desired fusion of the Briton and Boer in South Africa.

## GREAT BRITAIN AND TIBET.

(Daily Press, 30th November.)

The despatch of the British Expedition to Tibet has been made an excuse by the Russian Press for a new tirade against Great Britain. REUTER announces that the Russian papers are discussing the question, enlarging on the effect of the expedition, direct and indirect, upon Central Asia generally, and declaring that it will establish British prestige to the detriment of that of Russia. They credit the British Indian Government with ambitious designs, such no doubt as animate their own Government, and urge that every effort should be made to thwart these imaginary designs. The truth is, no doubt, that they hail the opportunity which they think the despatch of this expedition gives them as a heaven-sent chance to retort upon Great Britain the accusations which a portion of the British Press have levelled against Russia of designs upon Manchuria. If they are accused of desiring and intending to annex Manchuria, why should they not attribute to Great Britain the same sinister intentions with regard to Tibet? It matters little to Muscovite writers that the circumstances are widely different. Great Britain may not desire to drive a railway across the passes to the "Roof of the World," and is not in search of a port in unfrozen waters as the terminus of its great arterial line of railway, but she may be seeking for a new market—if a limited one—for British manufactures and products, and even the land of the Dalai Lama is a consumer of tea and other products which England and India have for sale. The volume of such trade would, it is true, be very small, especially considering that Tibet already imports from India to a fair extent. Then Great Britain has no hankering for the inclement country comprised in the Tibetan plateau, and would not care to spend either men or money in such a cause. She is interested, like the rest of the world, in exploring the wide territories at the foot of the great mountains of Central Asia, but she has no wish to annex a country which would scarcely give any return on the cost of conquering, and certainly, even as a market for products or goods, would never pay for any serious effort to secure its possession. What the British Indian Government cannot allow, however, is for another and perhaps rival Power to establish itself amongst the snows of Tibet and become a standing menace,

first to Sikkim and Nepal, and then to India. If there is to be a race for the protectorate of the tributaries of the decaying Dragon Throne, then it is a matter of state policy that England should get there first. At present, and as things stand, Great Britain has no hankering for either Manchuria, Mongolia, or Tibet, but if they are all to be torn from the feeble grasp of KWANG HSU, she cannot and will not allow them all to be absorbed in the territories on the Tsar.

## THE MISSIONARIES AND THE PRESS.

(Daily Press, 30th November.)

Dr. HOARE, in his sermon at St. John's Cathedral yesterday morning, mentioned the improvement which he had noticed in the attitude of the Press toward missionaries and mission work. His remarks had no particular local application, but referred to the British Press generally. The question of the attitude of the Press toward missionary effort has always been a difficult one, and perhaps it is exceptionally difficult in such parts of the world as the Far East, where we see for ourselves the missionary at work, and do not merely have to rely on the accounts given in the reports of various societies or from the pulpit on such occasions as yesterday, the annual day of intercession for missions. The European resident but here sees the missionary, if he acts up to his profession, striving his best to convert the natives of the country to that religion in which the resident himself, like the evangeliser, has been brought up, or at least under the influence of which his mother country is governed. He would, therefore, in the majority of cases, we take it, be predisposed to look upon the work more favourably than not, though he might not himself do anything to forward it actively. But is this so? The question can hardly be answered in the affirmative. It is plain then that there must be other factors in the situation which determine him rather against his natural inclination. We think there are, broadly, two. The first is, that the methods in a lot of missionising endeavour are objectionable; the second, and really more important, is that the thought cannot be put aside that so vast an amount of work is left undone at home that those who are admirably suited to do it, but instead come out here and undertake work for which they are by no means well suited, should not command much sympathy. We do not intend here to go into the question of wrong methods, as we have on various occasions in the past dealt with it at some length; the unfortunate point is that these methods are practically unchanged. As for the work left undone at home, there is no one in this Colony who ever lived in Britain who could not bear ample witness to it. We have, of course, heard strong advocates of missionary enterprise who have admitted the urgency of labour at home, but have claimed that there must be men (and women) for both tasks. In that case it seems to us that it is a great pity that so many of the earnest and sincere people who come out and blunder along in their attempt to convert the Chinese were not reasoned with before they set out for the East and induced to consider seriously whether they might not do far more good in their own country. Dr. HOARE takes the Hongkong people to task for not supporting missions more liberally. The Bishop was himself a missionary and was, we know, one of the hardest workers among them. But we think he rather ignores the possibility that Hongkong people require to be more convinced of the



value of the work which missions are doing in China, and that the missionaries have not left most urgent calls at home unattended to, before they give as liberally as he wishes.

## MAIL STEAMERS AND THE RED FLAG.

(Daily Press, 2nd December.)

Some correspondence was read at the last monthly meeting of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, with regard to the question of explosives on board steamers in the Harbour, which is of considerable interest to the leading shipping firms out here. Mr. HEWETT, as chairman of the Chamber, wrote on the 16th September urging the Government to alter the law respecting the flying of the red flag on all ships entering the Harbour with explosives on board. The Colonial Secretary replied on the 22nd September that the Government saw no sufficient reason for altering the law. Mr. HEWETT wrote again on the 19th October, his letter being that published in our columns yesterday. Herein the unwillingness of the Chamber was expressed to let matters rest without urging the Government once more to amend the existing regulations. It was pointed out that in the Treaty Ports of China it is permissible for ships to carry small quantities of ammunition, as 100 lbs. of gunpowder or 20,000 rounds of cartridges, without being obliged to conform to any special regulations, although in China itself it is necessary to take the greatest care to prevent illegal importation of munitions of war. The Committee of the Chamber of Commerce gave its opinion that it would be sufficient protection to Hongkong if, instead of the red flag rule and the obligation to lie in the Dangerous Goods anchorage, it was simply required that the masters or agents of ships carrying small quantities of ammunition should deposit with the Harbour Master written particulars of the dangerous goods carried. And they also suggested that, while the red flag should be retained for all vessels with sufficiently large quantities of explosives on board as to necessitate their lying in the special anchorage, another signal should be introduced to convey information to the Harbour authorities of the presence of explosives, without interfering with the movements of the vessel. Finally Mr. HEWETT's letter pointed out that, as matters now stand, a vessel with even one case only of safety cartridges on board must fly the red flag and must proceed to the Dangerous Goods anchorage unless permission to the contrary be received from the harbour authorities, and that this in most cases means the loss of several hours before the steamer can enter the harbour and proceed to a wharf or her moorings. The Colonial Secretary replied on the 24th October stating that H.E. the Governor was still of opinion that no such alteration of the law as the Chamber proposed was necessary, and that the Acting Harbour Master had informed the Government that in nine cases out of ten the shipping agents send him a copy of the manifest of the dangerous goods on board before the vessel's arrival, upon the receipt of which manifest the Harbour Master's instructions are issued forthwith, so that no delay is caused by the present regulations. H.E. failed to see any hardship in the necessity of flying the red flag. The Committee of the Chamber of Commerce on the 17th November, after hearing the last two letters read, disagreed with Sir HENRY

BLAKE's contention, and decided to address the Government once more. It seems to us that the Chamber of Commerce is most decidedly right in this matter, which, though it is not one of vital importance to shipping firms, is nevertheless one which affects their convenience considerably. By the Ordinance a restriction is imposed on them which did not exist in the past, does not exist in the Treaty Ports of China, and hampers the freedom of vessels. The Acting Harbour Master has stated that in nine cases out of ten the shipping agents send him manifests of the dangerous goods on board before the vessel's arrival. It is precisely in the tenth case that the hardship comes in, for it is usually the case of the large mail steamer, whose agent is unable to send particulars, in advance, of such dangerous goods as may be carried. A mail steamer may pick up a very small quantity of ammunition, perhaps a case or so of cartridges, at some intermediate port between home and Hongkong, and by the existing regulations she has to approach the Harbour flying the red flag and proceed to the remote Dangerous Goods anchorage to await the Harbour Master's permission to go to her moorings, thus losing several hours. This "tenth case," therefore, causes a delay to the very class of vessel which it is most necessary should not be delayed, and which would not be delayed in any Treaty Port in China for such a reason. It is to be hoped that the Officer Administering the Government will take into consideration the fact that the exceptions mentioned by the Acting Harbour Master are just those which are the most important, and will therefore consent to a reconsideration of the question by the Government. We understand that, in accordance with the decision at the November meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, a letter has been addressed to the Colonial Secretary, urging the reality of the hardship which Sir HENRY BLAKE failed to see. That this letter may have the desired effect is trusted not only in shipping circles, but in all quarters interested in the early arrival of mail steamers.

## THE "NEAR EAST."

(Daily Press, 1st December.)

That all Europe, or at least those countries which desire to live in harmony with their neighbours, and have no wish to see the continent embroiled in a deadly struggle on the off chance of getting some personal advantage from the misfortunes of their neighbours, does without saying. More especially would Great Britain be glad to get rid of her thankless responsibility to lend seeming support to an administration which seemed to her to be the acme of all that was bad, and a continual menace to the peace and good order of Europe. In the customary language of the day, the Turk is an anachronism in Europe; but he is far more than an anachronism, he is an intruder, and lacks the prescription that original possession alone can convey. The rest of Europe was not only Christianised but civilised, when, taking advantage of the weakness of the later Byzantine Emperors, the Turks crossed the Dardanelles and finally obtained possession of Constantinople. At first, indeed, they possessed in a large measure those virtues which go far to reconcile the world with a conquering race; they were brave, generous, and treated the subject peoples with justice, and almost with magnanimity. As the centuries passed and the race of OTHMAN settled down on the rich lands of the Balkan peninsula, the

less civilised Turk began to lose his own native virtues, while the hard and unaccommodating tenets of the religion of MAHOMET prevented him from acquiring those of settled life. The effect was marked, not only on the Turk as master, but on the subject peoples, who by degrees retroceded from the level of civilisation which they had at one time attained, till in these modern days there is little to choose between Turk and Rayah. So far it might appear that the coast is clear, and that any measures that would hasten the departure of the Turk from European territory could not but be hailed by all Europe as an unmixed blessing. But herein comes the rub. Were the inhabitants of the Balkan Peninsula to be left to work out their own salvation, the departure of the Turk might be accepted as the first harbinger of a better dawn for Europe and the world, but unfortunately all the schemes for the smoothing of the exodus are marred by the ambitious desires of the Powers for the control of these populations in their individual interests. Russia, careless of the interests or feelings of the peoples, would see in the situation only the means of still further increasing her already over-grown empire; Germany, equally careless of the well-being of the inhabitants, would strive to take advantage of it to advance her own private schemes of an impractical Pan-Germanism; and Austria, placed thus, as it were, between the upper and the nether mill-stone, would endeavour to utilise it in establishing her own control. With no particular ambitions of their own, the western nations could not but see in any extensions of the other Powers a danger to the stability of Europe which might perforce lead to an armed intervention. Unfortunately, too, there exists in England a puritanical school, which, under the pretence of peace, and simply for sentimental ideas of their own, would drag the country into acts certain to produce still worse complications even than those at present existing. Such are the conditions of the Macedonian question, and it is easy to comprehend how grossly they would be exaggerated were the apparently simple solution of the evacuation of Europe by the Turk to enter into the field of practical politics. It is in such circumstances that each successive Government in England, to whatever party it belonged, has on entering on the responsibilities of office, no matter what its avowed utterances may have been when in seclusion, adopted the apparently inconsistent course of seemingly backing up the government of Turkey for the time being—not that it sees anything to admire in the position, but in the fear that worse may come. Now the present Sultan ABDUL HAMID, weak and incapable as he is as an administrator, has yet sufficient knowledge of statecraft to see the advantage this position of affairs gives him in resisting all demands for reform by whomever urged, and in this he is still further helped by the truculence of the insurgent leaders. It is unfortunately the case that, bad as is the Turkish soldiery, that of the insurgents, had it but the power, would not be a whit better, and that were the situation reversed there would be as much occasion for an outcry against Macedonian atrocities as now exists for the deprecation of Turkish cruelty. In the absence of any real knowledge of the nature and extent of the reforms urged on the Sultan by Russia and Austria, it is of course out of the question to pass judgment on their probable effects, but coming as they do from so very questionable a source we have certainly room for doubt as to their quality and efficiency. No one



probably is capable of giving such wholesome advice as the Devil himself, but the world, from past experience of his way, is not likely to believe it disinterested. Meanwhile the revival in England of the old cry of Turkish atrocities is not one that augurs well for any practical solution of the difficulty. More lately we learn from telegraphic despatches that under pressure from the British Government the Sultan is beginning to show signs of yielding. Possibly the Government is convinced of the practicability of the changes demanded, and thinks the moment well-chosen for trying the experiment. If so we hope that it is sufficiently well-informed as to the disinterestedness of Russia's proposals. For ourselves we must continue to look with suspicion on an enemy's gifts. The situation is probably too far advanced to permit of any settlement by mere reforms, while their attempted introduction will be fraught with danger to Turkey herself, a danger which cannot but re-act on Europe under its present explosive conditions.

## HONGKONG JOTTINGS.

(Daily Press, 29th November.)

One of the chief topics of conversation in Hongkong just now, it may be safely said, is the cold. People are saying that it is much colder than they remember it being at this time of year, while one or two newcomers whom I have met recently are, to say the least of it, surprised at what Hongkong can do in the way of cold. It is really not to be wondered at that the weather is so much commented upon. I have been looking at the report, compiled from fifteen years' observations, of the Hongkong Observatory in 1898, and I find the following records of temperature in November:—Mean temperature, 69, maximum 85; minimum 50. The thermometer last Friday stood at 55 at 10 a.m. and at 53 at 4 p.m. (It was 48 only at 10 a.m. on the Peak one day last week, but the Peak of course is 7 or more degrees cooler.) So it can be seen that the cold which we are now experiencing, though a good way above the lowest record, is a long way below the mean temperature of the month of November. It is indeed below the mean of February, which, according to the same Observatory Report which I mentioned, is over 57. Will it last? is the question which everyone is asking. I think most of us hope not. Of course it is "very fine and bracing," as we shiveringly observe, but our houses and offices are hardly constructed to withstand the cold well. However, yesterday was distinctly warmer.

It will interest the members of the local Civil Service to know that Mr. Alleyne Ireland, the writer of the *Times* article (recently reproduced in the *Daily Press*) on the subject of the Civil Service in Hongkong, is still in the East, and is expected to reach this Colony from Saigon, on his way to the Philippines, very shortly. His stay here, I imagine, will be brief, as it is not likely to be quite so pleasant as his former visit. A Singapore journal, I notice, writes of Mr. Ireland's article on Hongkong as being "a virtual exposure of what is seemingly the most incompetent and slovenly secretariat in the Empire." It may be useful to remind Singapore that things are not always what they seem, and that if they were so bad in Hongkong as Mr. Ireland represented, the resident community, it is safe to say, would have made the discovery long ago. As it is they are still puzzled to know what justification exists for the attack.

Ricksha-coolies are making the most of the cement-work embedding electric tramway rails. The smooth surface, no doubt, does away with a deal of friction. In these circumstances a clear road and a good runner make ricksha-riding quite enjoyable. "Rickshies" had better make hay while the sun shines; we shall soon have little use for them. I note, by the way, that where the lines branch from Des Voeux

Road into Praya West, the double rails split: one branch turns down the road in front of the Harbour Office, the other down the next road east. This is a good arrangement; there would hardly be room for both tracks in one narrow byway. To move a little nearer town, I still imagine the corner at the City Hall will be a dangerous one.

Coming down from the Gardens with a friend the other day, I happened to pass the battery near Government Buildings. Greatly to the entertainment of a few loafing Chinese the R.G.A. were performing heavy gun drill with the oldest type of guns imaginable. Little things amuse little minds, no doubt, but my friend accompanying me, an officer in the army of a Continental power, was greatly amused also. "Such drilling," said he, "is waste of time; time wasted in this description was the cause, no doubt, of many deficiencies displayed by the British in the South African war. It is the same with your Navy. Men are trained to lug about obsolete muzzle-loading guns. Time thus occupied could be utilised to far greater advantage. It is said by advocates for this out-of-date system of training men that if a man know his drill at M. L. guns he will experience little difficulty in learning how to manipulate the breech-loaders. This idea does not work out in practice."

There appears to be a "slump" in professional theatrical touring in the Far East. Shanghai, it seems, intimated in some way that there was no great desire there for third or fourth-rate shows, and indeed the Lyceum is no longer open to them except by permission of the A.D.C. A result of this inability to secure the Shanghai theatre is that two companies which were coming to China from the South will not even come to Hongkong this season, as Hongkong without Shanghai would not pay them sufficiently. I have no wish to say anything against these two particular companies, whose names I do not know. But I think that the less we get of some of the very inferior theatrical shows which come to the Far East the better. I have seen many out here which are only amusing through their sheer badness; and I am very glad I did not have to write a criticism on them. If I had, I might have been visited by the whole troupe next day.

Compared with the just expiring month of November, which has been full of Chinese festivals, December is not much of a festival month with the native population. But there is nevertheless one of the biggest *fête* days of the year during its course, namely that of the philosopher Kung, generally known to Europeans under the Latinised style of Confucius. The date of his birth is given as B.C. 551, so that his *fête* is one of no little antiquity.

BANYAN.

## INTERESTING GOLF MATCH.

An interesting match took place on the Happy Valley links on Sunday, between teams representing the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank and Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. Eight players appeared on each side, and 8 singles and 4 foursomes were decided. The Bank, who have a very strong team just now, gained an easy victory by 10 matches to 1, Jardine's only winning one single and halving another. The pairing and individual results were as follows, the Bank players being put first in each case:—

Singles:—C. W. May beat J. Johnston (2 up and 1 to play); N. J. Stabb beat W. W. Ross (2 up); H. E. B. Hunter beat G. T. Veitch (2 up); P. R. Scott lost to K. McK. Ross (1 down); E. E. Deacon beat A. Brooke Smith (8 up and 7 to play); W. D. C. Turner beat W. Taylor (7 up and 5 to play); A. Boyd and Peter Dow halved; H. C. Sandford beat P. S. Jameson (7 up and 6 to play).

Foursomes:—May & Stabb beat Johnston and W. Ross (6 up and 5 to play); Hunter and Scott beat Veitch and K. Ross (2 up and 1 to play); Deacon and Turner beat Smith and Taylor (2 up); Boyd and Sandford beat Dow and Jameson (2 up).

## S. ANDREW'S BALL.

As year succeeds year in the social life of Hongkong the annual ball of the S. Andrew's Society appears to grow in popularity. It is looked forward to in more ways than one. The general community anticipate it as the grand event which marks the opening of the festivities that our climate permits to be held in winter, and viewed in that light alone S. Andrew's Ball would be rightly held in high favour, for it celebrates our emergence from the trying days of a tropical summer into bracing acquaintanceship with north-east winds and overcoats. But to the Scotsman abroad the advent of the day of the patron saint of Scotland brings reflections deeper than these. Wherever the British flag flies there are always to be found among the pioneers of the Empire Scots who carry with them affectionate recollections of their native land, who cherish in their hearts fond remembrances of the clachans and the hills fragrant with the smell of the heather, and who, as the annual festival day of Scotland comes round, renew their youth in the contemplation of past pleasures in the dear homeland. It is to this love of country that we owe the existence of S. Andrew's Societies all over the world. The Scotsman desirous of an annual day of celebration could easily find an outlet for his patriotic spirit in more ways than one. But the Scotsman is thoroughly practical always. He does not avoid the festival—he would be no true Scotsman if he did—but he arranges it in such a way that with it he combines a recognition of the "greatest of these"—and the greatest of these is charity. The S. Andrew's Society is no mere organisation got up for the purpose of promoting an annual dance. Year in, year out, it goes quietly about its useful and charitable work in relieving distress among Scotsmen and their dependants—so quietly indeed that one almost forgets that its functions are being vigorously exercised by a devoted band of workers and that the greatest forces in life are those that make themselves least evident on the surface. So, the S. Andrew's Ball has more than one significance. It opens the social season in the Colony; it serves as a reminder of the good work being done by the Society; and it affords an opportunity for the Scott community to meet and renew the old friendships and to forge the first links in the new.

As on previous occasions, the whole of the City Hall suite was utilised for the Ball. S. George's Hall and S. Andrew's Hall were devoted to dancing, the Theatre Royal was made into the supper-room, and the Library and Chamber of Commerce contained refreshment bars and card-tables. The committee room adjoining was used for the reception of the guests. This year there was no outside porch erected in front of the grand entrance. As the guests entered the vestibule of the hall they were confronted with a spectacle of dazzling splendour. The pillars were entwined with ropes of greenery, and on both sides of the red-carpeted staircase was a profusion of plants and ferns and palms. At the top of the staircase the eye was arrested by a huge illuminated device of the Scottish Thistle backed by the Royal Standard, while on either side were displayed S. Andrew's Cross in blue and silver and shields bearing similar devices. Underneath this thistle stood a great mirror reflecting an emblazoned trophy of shining bayonets and the Scottish Shield with the Royal Crown dominant. Two howitzers kindly lent by the Army Ordnance Corps frowned upon the landing amidst a profusion of tropical vegetation. On the main landing a centre-piece was found in a fine stag's head surrounded with flags. All along the passageway banners of different nations were hung with most picturesque effect.

The dates 1847 and 1903 displayed on the walls reminded one of the age of the society. S. Andrew's Hall and S. George's Hall were tastefully decorated. In former years the picture of the patron saint had exclusively occupied the head of the hall which bears his name. This year he shared honours with King Edward. Mr. Dorabjee, of the King Edward Hotel, had kindly lent for the occasion the fine portraits of the King and Queen which hang in his dining-room there. Her Majesty's portrait was placed in the reception room. King Edward's appeared underneath the picture of



S. Andrew and his Cross. In S. George's Hall the portrait of her late Majesty Queen Victoria was flanked by the Royal Standard and the Irish Standard (a compliment to the donor, Sir Thomas Jackson). All round the walls of both halls were suspended the shields of the various Scottish families and the county names, not excluding Kowloon. It is well known that Kowloon has long claimed to be territorially related to Scotland, but never until last night had its arms been displayed, namely, Wee Macgregor, black with red tourie on a white ground. Congratulations, Kowloon! The Heraldic Office have suited you to a "T." If the committeemen had heard the remarks of a certain gentleman who found the Logan Arms with the county name of Fife beneath they would have crept off to hide their diminished heads; there were those, however, who whispered that it was a mistake of *malice prepense*.

To go fully into a description of the decorations of the various halls and chambers would mean a mere cataloguing of items. In the bright glare of the electric light as it flashed from burnished spears and battle-axes and brought out the colours of the flags and bannerettes one forgot to investigate the details, so absorbed was he in contemplation of the beauty of the whole. There was one little corner that called forth general admiration. That was "The Ingle Neuk" in a corner of the S. Andrew's Hall. Upon entering this apartment the visitor found himself transported from the glory of the ball room into the interior of an old Scottish cottage kitchen with a fireplace fit to hold the worthiest porridge-pot that ever came out of Kilmarnock; and a representation of a "Hole in the Wall" bed so realistically executed as to make his eyelids blink with sleep.

The Theatre was nicely decorated. On the stage each wing was flanked by a brass howitzer, and palms and ferns were scattered about in profusion. On the front of the balcony were a huge emblem of the Scottish Thistle, covered with moss, and numerous shields bearing the Lion Rampant and S. Andrew's Cross, the whole surmounted by a great device "Scotland for Ever" and set off with groups of ancient war-weapons. Down below, on the ground floor, all those who were able to say correctly "Anchltermuchty" were invited to change there for that city of impossible pronunciation, the Library having been constituted for the time being the "Grand Central Station of the South China Railway," capable of transporting its passengers to any part of the universe they desired, according to their capacity and inclination. The scheme of decorations was most excellently carried out and did great credit to the committee, whose names will be found below.

The flow of arriving guests began before nine o'clock and from then onwards there was a constant stream of people into the hall. The guests were received by the members of the Committee; President, Mr. G. W. F. Playfair; Vice-President, Dr. Rennie; Committee, Mr. J. R. Brazier, Hon. C. W. Dickson, Mr. J. R. M. Smith, Hon. Gershom Stewart, Mr. W. Wilson, Mr. N. S. Brown (Hon. Secretary), and Mr. J. Stodart (Hon. Treasurer).

His Excellency F. H. May, Mrs. May and Captain M. R. Hurly, A.D.C., arrived shortly after nine o'clock, and having been received by the President, Mr. G. W. F. Playfair, proceeded upstairs through S. Andrew's Hall and into S. George's, the way being led by Piper J. E. Sinclair playing "The Marchioness of Tullibardine." When the party reached the top of the hall the band of the Sherwood Foresters (under Bandmaster E. J. Bradley) struck up "God Save the King." Then the Ball started. The President's set in the opening dance, "The Lancers," was as follows:—

The President and Mrs. May, H.E. the Officer Administering the Colony and Mrs. Playfair, the Vice-President and Lady Goodman, Colonel Brown, O.C.G., and Mrs. L. A. M. Johnston, Hon. G. Stewart and Mrs. Wylly, Commodore Robinson and Lady Berkeley, Mr. Brazier, and Mrs. Dickson, Sir W. M. Goodman and Mrs. Robinson.

The dancing was entered into with great spirit, the music being supplied by the S.F. band and Piper Sinclair. It was a magnificent spectacle of animation and splendour that the ball room presented; the many uniforms of the

military and naval guests and the picturesque Highland dress vied with the brilliance of the ladies' dresses in lending colour to the scene.

#### DANCE PROGRAMME.

The dance programme was as follows:—

|                      |                         |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Lancers              | The Mikado              |
| Waltz                | Soldaten Lieder         |
| Caledonians          | Scotch Airs             |
| Waltz                | My Queen                |
| Eightsome Reel       | Mrs. McLeod             |
| Waltz                | Santiago                |
| Caledonians          | Scotch Airs             |
| Strathspey and Reel  | Cabar Feidh             |
| Waltz                | Sourire D'Avril         |
| Waltz                | Blue Danube             |
| Polka                | Retour des Champs       |
| Waltz                | Espana                  |
| Highland Schottische | Scotia                  |
| Eight some Reel      | Danse Dings A'          |
| Barn Dance           | De Merry little Niggahs |
| Strathspey and Reel  | Lady Madeline Sinclair  |
| Waltz                | Blue                    |
| Lancers              | Scusa                   |
| Waltz                | Love's old sweet song   |
| Caledonians          | Scotch Airs             |
| Waltz                | Farewell—Don't be cross |
| Waltz                | Bid me Good-bye         |
| Galop                | Pomona                  |

#### THE SUPPER.

Supper commenced at half-past eleven. His Excellency Mr. May was played into the supper-room by Piper J. E. Sinclair to the tune of "Bonnie Annie," while the Hag is followed in due and ancient form to the strains of "The Cock o' the North."

#### MENU.

The menu was as follows:—

'Some hae meat and canna eat,  
And some wad eat that wad it!  
But we hae meat and we can eat,  
And aae the Lord be thankit.'

Turtle Soup.  
Saddle of Mutton.  
Roast Turkey. York Ham.  
Roast Kobe Beef. Corned Beef.  
Corned Tongue. Roast Capon.  
Game Pie. Sheep's Head Pie.  
Pate de Foie Gras in Jelly.  
Lobster Salad. Chicken Salad.  
Roast Pheasant. Roast Wild Duck.

Hot Potatoes.

#### THE HAGGIS.

'Fair fa' your honest sonsie face,  
Great chieftain o' the puddin' race,  
Aboon them a' ye tak your place,  
Freedom and whis-y gang thegither.  
Tak aff your dram.'

#### SWEETS.

Gooseberry Tart. Jam Tartlets.  
Blanc Manger.  
Vanilla and Chocolate Ice Creams.  
Scotch Shortbread.

'Breathes there the man with soul so dead  
Who never to himself hath said  
"This is my own, my native land,"  
Whose heart hath ne'er within him burn'd  
As home his footsteps he hath turn'd  
From wandering on a foreign strand.'

#### TELEGRAPHIC GREETINGS.

The following telegram was sent to kindred societies in Shanghai, Kobe, Yokohama, Amoy, Nagasaki, Singapore, Penang, Manila, Tientsin, Foochow, Weibaiwei:—

"President Playfair and brother Scots greet brother Scots.—Brown, Secretary."

The following telegrams were received. They were read, when the toast was drunk, by Mr. N. S. Brown, Hon. Secretary:—

From Yokohama.—"Chief Keswick and brother Scots greet you all.—Maitland."

From Shanghai.—"Heartiest greetings frae brother Scots here.—Lindsay, Secretary."

From Amoy.—"Amoy Scots send greetings to brother Scots.—McDouglas."

From Los Angeles.—"Scotland yet and Peterheid; wha's like them. Joy be wi' ye, drouthy cronies.—Rovin' Pobin."

Shortly after supper H. E. Mr. May's party departed for Government House, Piper Sinclair playing "Abercainry Highlanders" as His Excellency left the hall. Dancing continued well into the "wee sma' hours ayont the twa," and a most successful Ball was brought to a close with the singing of "Anld Lang Syne" by the company. The various committees are to be congratulated on the success of the dance.

#### THE STEWARDS.

Mr. W. Armstrong, Mr. J. I. Andrew, Mr. Neilage S. Brown, Mr. Angus Boyd, Mr. R. W. Borthwick, Mr. J. R. Brazier, Mr. J. W.

C. Bonnar, Mr. E. A. Bremner, Mr. W. D. Braid, Mr. Geo. Murray Bain, Mr. D. E. Brown, Mr. T. P. Cochran, Hon. W. Chatham, Mr. Duncan Clark, Major Gordon Cumming, Capt. Crichton, R.A., Hon. C. W. Dickson, Mr. Peter Dow, Mr. J. Dickie, Mr. H. W. Fraser, Mr. J. McK. Forrester, Mr. Andrew Forbes, Mr. A. D. Galloway, Mr. W. D. Graham, Dr. R. Gibson, Mr. A. G. Gordon, Dr. Hunter, Mr. P. S. Jamieson, Mr. W. C. Jack, Mr. D. R. Law, Mr. F. H. Lyons, Mr. Robert Mitchell, Mr. C. Gordon Mackie, Lieut. G. B. Macdonald, R.A., Mr. J. Macdubbin, Mr. D. Macdonald, Capt. A. Milroy, Mr. F. Maitland, Mr. W. Nicholson, Major Ormiston, R.A., Mr. G. W. F. Playfair, Mr. John Paterson, Mr. C. H. Ross, Mr. W. W. Y. Ross, Mr. Andrew Ross, Mr. T. H. Reid, Dr. A. Rennie, Mr. A. Reid, H. Rodger, Mr. A. Sinclair, Mr. J. R. M. Smith, Mr. W. Murray Scott, Hon. Gershom Stewart, Mr. J. Stodart, Mr. Murray Stewart, Mr. G. Morton Smith, Capt. W. G. Simpson, R.M.L.I., Mr. W. A. Stopani, Mr. W. Malcolm Watson, Mr. W. Wilson, Mr. H. S. Wynne, Mr. Jas. Walker.

#### COMMITTEES.

The various Committees were made up as follows:—

Invitation Committee.—Mr. G. W. F. Playfair, Dr. Rennie, Hon. Gershom Stewart, Mr. J. R. M. Smith, Hon. C. W. Dickson, Mr. J. R. Brazier, Mr. W. Wilson, Hon. W. Chatham, Mr. R. Mitchell, Mr. T. P. Cochran, and the Hon. Secretary (Convener).

Supper and Wines Committee.—Mr. J. W. C. Bonnar (Convener), Messrs. Archd. Reid, Peter Dow, W. M. Watson, F. Maitland, J. F. Boulton, Dr. Hunter, Messrs. W. Armstrong, J. Stodart, A. D. Galloway, A. Boyd, Andrew Ross, Andrew Forbes, and A. Rodger.

Decorations Committee.—Mr. W. C. Jack (Convener), Messrs. D. Macdonald (K. & M.), Hugh S. Wynne, Lieut. A. G. Soutar, R.A., Mr. J. Dickie, Captain Milroy, Messrs. J. Macdubbin, J. Forrester, J. Andrew, G. Duncan, and G. Smith.

Dancing and Music Committee.—Mr. C. H. Ross (Convener), Major Gordon Cumming, Mr. H. W. Fraser, Hon. Gershom Stewart, Mr. A. Sinclair, Dr. Rennie, Mr. John Paterson, and the Hon. Secretary.

Card Room Committee.—Messrs. Peter Dow, P. S. Jamieson, C. W. Mackie, and A. G. Gordon.

Ladies' Room Committee.—Dr. Gibson and Mr. Murray Stewart.

## HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on Thursday afternoon in the Board Room. Hon. Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Principal Civil Medical Officer (President), presided, and there were also present Hon. W. Chatham, Director of Public Works; Hon. A. W. Brown, Registrar-General; Capt. F. W. Lyons, Acting Capt.-Superintendent of Police; Mr. Fung Wa Chun; Colonel W. E. Webb, R.A.M.C.; Mr. E. A. Hewitt; Mr. A. Rumjahn, Dr. W. W. Pearce, Acting Medical Officer of Health; Dr. B. Barnett Assistant Medical Officer of Health, and Mr. T. H. Hammer (Assistant Secretary).

MARKETS FOR SHANKIWAN AND QUARRY BAY. There was submitted the reply of the Government relative to the Board's recommendation concerning the market accommodation at Shankiwan and Quarry Bay.

The Colonial Secretary wrote to the effect that it appeared to him it would be better to wait till the district was more developed before building a market between Quarry Bay and Shankiwan. The enlargement of Shankiwan Market might be voted for 1905 estimates.

From the D.P.W.'s office came a reply to the effect that the matter had been noted for 1905 estimates. As regards a new market near Quarry Bay a suitable building could be erected at an inconsiderable cost. Taikoktsui Market, for instance, cost about \$3,000 and gave a good return on expenditure.

The PRESIDENT remarked that there were no funds at present available for increasing the market accommodation.



## MILK SUPPLY.

The Secretary laid on the table a minute by the Acting Medical Officer of Health suggesting a new bye-law to the effect that vessels used for the reception and storage of milk shall be used exclusively for that purpose, and no others.

The PRESIDENT said it had been found that some of the vessels used for storing milk were used for washing cattle. The M. O. H. thought it advisable that a new bye-law should be made to prevent this under Sub-section 19 of Section 16 of Ordinance 1 of 1903. He moved accordingly.

Mr. HEWETT seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

## CATTLE DISEASE.

There was submitted a minute by the C. V. S. reporting a case of anthrax in the Kennedy Town Cattle Depot.

Mr. J. J. Minchin minute:—"I thought suspected cattle were isolated. The fact that this animal was found dead in the shed where 39 other animals were kept shows that there had not been any isolation."

The PRESIDENT stated that this was a disease that broke out very suddenly. As soon as it was discovered the C. V. S. put the other animals in the shed under observation. No other cases had occurred, and the usual steps had been taken.

## CHOLERA AT NAGASAKI.

The PRESIDENT said that eight fresh cases of cholera had occurred at Nagasaki since the 11th ult. Ten cases were under treatment. 59 patients had been discharged as cured. He had seen in one of the local papers that the disease had practically ceased in Nagasaki; since then news to the contrary had arrived from Japan and he thought they would not be justified in stopping the medical inspection of ships arriving here from that port.

## MODIFICATION OF ORDINANCE REQUIREMENTS.

An application for a modification of the requirements of Section 180 of Ordinance 1 of 1903 in respect of certain houses proposed to be erected on L.L. 679 was laid on the table.

The M.O.H. approved the application generally.

The modification was granted.

## STREET HAWKERS.

Correspondence was submitted relative to the interference with the business of the market stalls by street hawkers.

The C.V.S. wrote to the effect that for several months past he had had many complaints from stallholders, in the markets regarding the interference with their business by street hawkers. These men not only sold on the street, outside the market limits, which they were allowed to do, but came within the limits, and in many cases actually into the markets, and sold there. The Inspector of Markets had been instructed to do his best to get rid of them, but one officer was soon recognised by those people and by the time he got on the scene warning had been given and the hawkers had all disappeared. In some cases, the C.V.S. believed the loss to the stallholders had been so great that they had been obliged to give up their stalls. The number of hawkers in the Colony was large and there were many unlicensed. The market people seemed to have a legitimate ground of complaint. He would therefore ask that the police give a help to the Inspector of Markets and try to get rid of these hawkers within the market limits and in the markets themselves.

The PRESIDENT said this arose from a complaint by the C.V.S. The Captain of Police reported that there were 586 prosecutions against hawkers and 229 for hawking within the limits of the markets.

Mr. HEWETT said it appeared to him that the hawkers should be dealt with severely by the police.

The PRESIDENT—I think we may leave the matter in the hands of the police.

Captain LYONS—We will try to enforce the law all we can.

## COW DISEASE IN A DAIRY.

The President stated that disease had broken out in Kennedy's dairy at East Point. The disease was formerly known as rinderpest. Further investigations were being made into its nature. One cow had died. He moved that the premises be declared infected.

The motion was agreed to.

## WATER ANALYSIS.

The report on the public water supply by Mr. Frank Browne, the Government Analyst, showed that the water was of excellent quality.

## LIMEWASHING.

The limewashing return showed that during the fortnight ended 24th ult. 2752 houses in the Central District and 254 in the Western had been dealt with.

## BAT RETURN.

The rat return for the fortnight ended 30th November showed that 1,047 rats had been destroyed. Of these 13 were found to be infected. This was all the public business.

## HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

At a Monthly Meeting of the General Committee of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce in the Chamber Room, City Hall on Tuesday, 17th November, at 3.45 p.m. Present Mr. E. A. Hewett (Chairman), Mr. D. R. Law (Vice-Chairman) Hon. C. W. Dickson, Messrs C. Michelan, N. A. Siebs, J. R. M. Smith, H. E. Tomkins, R. C. Wilcox, A. G. Wood, and A. R. Lowe (Secretary).

## MINUTES.

The minutes of meetings held on the 6th, 17th, and 28th ult. were read and confirmed.

## EXPLOSIVES ON BOARD STEAMERS IN THE HARBOUR.

The following correspondence was read:—Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.

Hongkong, 19th October, 1903.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 22nd ultimo, in which you state that the Government sees no sufficient reason for altering the law as suggested in my letter of the 16th ultimo with regard to the conditions under which a vessel with ammunition on board may enter this harbour.

While the Committee of this Chamber regret that it is difficult to combat the decision of the Government for reasons which have not been expressed, they are loth to let the matter rest without again urging on the Government the desirability of amending the existing regulations which they venture to submit do not conform to the modern necessities of the port with regard to the treatment of goods in small quantities; these by the very fact of their being in small quantities place them outside the category of "dangerous goods." In the treaty ports of China such quantities, viz., ammunition containing in the aggregate not more than 100 lbs. of gunpowder, or 20,000 rounds of cartridges, are allowed to be carried by ships, as cargo, without the latter being asked to conform to special regulations, and if these regulations are sufficient in China, where of necessity the greatest care has to be taken to prevent the illegal importation of munitions of war, it seems to the Committee of the Chamber similar conditions might reasonably be asked for in a port which prides itself, and derives its prosperity to a very great extent, by reason of its freedom from the annoyance and delays attaching to those ports where custom houses exist.

It appears to the Committee that it would be sufficient protection to the Colony if instead of the red flag rule and the obligation to lie in the "Dangerous Goods" anchorage, it was simply required that the masters or agents of those ships carrying small quantities of ammunition deposit with the Harbour Master a declaration in writing giving particulars of the dangerous goods carried, due notice also being furnished, if thought desirable by the Government not only of all ammunition and explosives landed and shipped, but also of those retained on board in transit through the port.

The Committee of the Chamber are given to understand the flying of the red flag is desired by the Harbour authorities to enable them to readily take note of all the vessels in the port having explosives on board.

If this is correct we would beg to suggest that while the red flag be retained for all vessels with sufficiently large quantities of explosives on board to necessitate their being in the Dangerous Goods anchorage, another signal be brought into use which, while conveying the necessary information to the Harbour authorities as to explosives on board, will not interfere

with the free movements of the vessel while in the harbour.

The Committee of the Chamber desire to point out that such a change would not apparently necessitate an alteration in the existing Dangerous Goods Ordinance, but might be effected by Regulations issued by the Governor in Council.

The Committee of the Chamber trust that on further consideration the Government will agree to making this concession; since as matters now stand a vessel with even only one case of safety cartridges on board must fly the red flag and must proceed to the Dangerous Goods anchorage unless permission to the contrary be received from the Harbour authorities. This in most cases would mean the loss of several hours before the steamer can enter the harbour and proceed to a wharf or her mooring.—I have the honour to be, Sir, Your obedient servant,

(Sd) EDBERT A. HEWETT.  
Chairman.

Hon. F. H. May C.M.G., Colonial Secretary.]

Colonial Secretary's Office,  
Hongkong, 24th October, 1903.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th instant regarding the conditions under which a vessel carrying ammunition on board may enter this harbour, and to inform you that it has received the careful attention of the Governor. His Excellency however is still of opinion that no such alteration of the law as is contemplated by your Chamber is necessary. As to the argument that delay is caused by having to obtain the Harbour Master's permission to enter the harbour, the Government is informed by the Acting Harbour Master that in nine cases out of ten the shipping agents send him a copy of the manifest of the dangerous goods on board before the arrival of the vessel in question, and upon receipt of such manifest his instructions are issued forthwith. No delay, therefore, is caused by the present regulations in this respect.

Finally, His Excellency fails to see that there is any hardship involved in the flying of the red flag.

I have the honour to be Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Sd.) F. H. MAY,

Colonial Secretary.

Secretary, Chamber of Commerce.

The contention of H.E., the Governor that there is no hardship involved in the flying of the red flag was not agreed with, and it was decided to address the Government on the subject again.

## QUARANTINE AT BATAVIA.

Read correspondence placed at the disposal of Chamber by the Colonial Secretary on 20th ultimo relating to the inability of the Government of Netherlands India to remove the restrictions against arrivals from Hongkong until the port could be regarded as plague-free in terms of Chap. II. Sec. 2 of the Venice Convention. The Chairman pointed out that a notification appeared in the Government Gazette of the 6th instant withdrawing these restrictions.

## CURRENCY QUESTION.

The Chairman said that the Committee had previously read the correspondence commencing in May last between the Chambers of Commerce of Shanghai, Tientsin, and Hongkong, which resulted in the drawing up of a joint memorial addressed to the Diplomatic Body at Peking on the subject of the currency of China.

The memorial and the closing letters were laid on the table.

Shanghai, 6th August, 1903.

His Excellency, E. H. Conger,

Minister for the United States of America,

and Doyen of the Diplomatic Corps Peking.

SIR,—We, the undersigned Chambers of Commerce of Shanghai, Hongkong, and Tientsin, respectfully beg to bring to your notice the serious disabilities under which this country labours by reason of the violent fluctuations in the gold value of silver, and the pressing need thereby occasioned for the prompt introduction of remedial measures.

In approaching this subject we are fully aware of the difficulties with which it is surrounded, but, while in no way seeking to minimise these



difficulties, we venture to think that if the Treaty Powers shew their desire to render to China their sympathetic assistance, she may be encouraged to take the initiative in endeavouring to extricate the country from the financial confusion into which it has drifted and to avert the ruin which further inaction seems to threaten.

Under Clause II. of the Treaty recently concluded with Great Britain, China agrees to take the necessary steps to provide for an uniform national coinage, and it is in the fulfilment of this clause of the treaty (which to be effective must include the absorption of the provincial mints) that we recognise the preliminary step to the much-needed reforms.

It is hardly necessary to point out how essential it is to the Powers carrying on trade with China—and no less to China herself—that this question of an uniform coinage, as a preliminary step to the establishment of a currency on a gold basis, be taken in hand at once; nor, on the other hand, to demonstrate the dangers attendant on delay. It is only too well known by traders that the constant fluctuation of silver, converting as it may a profitable contract into an ultimate loss, engenders a feeling of insecurity in all commercial transactions which cannot fail to hinder the expansion of trade.

Moved by these considerations and feeling confident that whatever measures may subsequently be found to be desirable or feasible, the first step is the establishment of a national coinage, as provided for by treaty, we respectfully beg that the representatives of the Treaty Powers in Peking lose no opportunity of urging upon the Chinese Government the imperative necessity of taking this matter in hand without delay.

We have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servants,

(Sd.) E. INGLIS, Chairman Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce.

EDBERT A. HEWITT, Chairman Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.

J. M. DICKINSON, Chairman Tientsin General Chamber of Commerce.

Names of Ministers, &c., in Peking to whom copies of the Currency Memorial were sent:—  
M. d'Almeida, Chargé d'Affaires for Portugal.  
H.E. P. Lessar, H.I.B.M. Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary.

H.E. Uchida Yasuya, H.I.J.M. Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary.

H.E. Count C. Callina, H.I.J.M. Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary.

H.E. Sir Ernest Satow, G.C.M.G., H.B.M. Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary.

H.E. Dr. Von Schwarzenstein, H.I.G.M. Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary.

H.E. C. Dubail, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary for France.

H.E. Baron Czikann de Wahlbor, His Imperial and Apostolic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary.

H.E. M. Joostens, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary for Belgium.

M. W. J. Oudendyk, Chargé d'Affaires for the Netherlands.

H.E. B. J. de Cologan, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary for Spain.

Tientsin General Chamber of Commerce

Tientsin, 14th October, 1903.

SIR,—I have the honour to enclose

(a) Copy of a letter from the Senior Consul at Tientsin under date, Tientsin, 18th October.

(b) Copy of a letter from the Doyen of the Diplomatic Corps under date, Peking, 8th October.

(c) Copy of my reply to the Senior Consul at Tientsin.

The despatch of the Doyen at Peking although it adds nothing to our knowledge of what progress is contemplated by the Imperial Government, is, at any rate, satisfactory as giving expression to sympathy with the views held by the Chambers.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,  
(Sd.) J. M. DICKINSON,  
Chairman.

To the Chairman, Chamber of Commerce, Hongkong.

H.B.M. Consulate-General, Tientsin.

13th October, 1903.

SIR,—With reference to your letter of the 10th September inclosing a communication from the Chamber of Commerce of Shanghai, Hongkong, and Tientsin, for transmission to the Doyen of the Diplomatic Body at Peking, which document I duly forwarded to its destination on the 11th September, I beg now to inclose a copy of the reply received yesterday from Baron Czikann, the present Doyen, to your letter. May I ask you to communicate the same to the Shanghai and Hongkong Chambers in due course?

I am, Sir, Your Obedient servant,  
(Sd.) L. C. HOPKINS.

Consul-General.

J. M. Dickinson, Esq. Chairman, Tientsin General Chamber of Commerce.

Austrian-Hungarian Legation in China.

Peking, 8th October, 1903.

SIR,—I have been honoured by you with a petition of the Chambers of Commerce of Tientsin, Shanghai, and Hongkong, by which these bodies have expressed their desire to see a uniform coinage adopted in China.

The Diplomatic Body is highly interested with a question of this nature and greatly appreciate the efforts and zeal of the Chambers of Commerce.

I shall feel obliged if you will communicate this reply to the Chairmen of the said three Chambers.

I have, etc.

(Sd.) M. CZIKANN.

The Senior Consul, Tientsin.

Tientsin General Chamber of Commerce.

Tientsin, 14th October, 1903.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter under yesterday's date enclosing a copy of a communication addressed to yourself as Doyen of the Consular Corps at Tientsin by Baron Czikann, the present Doyen of the Diplomatic Corps, and having reference to a letter under date of the 10th ultimo, addressed to that body by the Chambers of Commerce at Hongkong, Shanghai and Tientsin.

In accordance with your wishes I will communicate this reply to the Chambers concerned.

I am, Sir, Your obedient servant,  
(Sd.) J. M. DICKINSON.

Chairman.

L. C. Hopkins, Esq., H.B.M. Consul-General and Senior Consul, Tientsin.

## THE NORTHERN CRISIS.

[FROM OUR PORT ARTHUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Port Arthur, 16th November.

AN UNEXPECTED EFFECT.

The present crisis in Russo-Japanese relations may have the unlooked-for effect of making Russia and Japan understand more than ever they did before of each other's history and language. Many Russian officers in Liaotung and Vladivostok have lately taken to the study of Japanese, and some of them have translated from that language books which are now on sale in the book-stores. A great deal of attention is bestowed, too, on the vernacular Press; and the history of Dai Nippon seems to exercise quite a fascination over Russian readers. So at least I should judge from the numerous articles on Japanese history, subjects that I find in Russian newspapers. I picked up accidentally the other day a copy of an obscure paper called the *Kronstadsky Vvestnik*, in which I came across a long continued article on the "Origins of Civilisation in Japan" which seems to have been taken from another Russian paper, the *Pravil Vvestnik*. It is not very likely, however, that this craze for things Japanese will be permanent owing, among other things, to the fact that English is becoming more and more the language of Japan, and that the cream of the native Press is skimmed off by expert hands in the English newspapers which appear in the country.

## THE RUSSIAN LANGUAGE IN JAPAN.

The conquests made by the Russian language in Japan and China will perhaps be more permanent. The Far Eastern crisis seems certainly to have given a great impetus to the study of the Russian language in this part of the world. The number of Japanese who have taken up that language in the School of Foreign Languages at Tokyo is, I am told, so great that no more pupils can be received, and the trade done by booksellers in Russian grammars and dictionaries, intended for English students, is so brisk as to astonish publishers in England. A Russian grammar with the explanations in Japanese which has been published by the Chaplain of the Russian Legation at Tokyo is selling very well, while many Japanese teachers of the Muscovite tongue are rushing into print *à la Japonaise* with phrase-books, lexicons, grammars, etc., some of them not quite up to the mark.

If Russia advances at her present rate in North China, the day must come when a knowledge of Russian will become as necessary in the Legations at Peking as a knowledge of English is necessary in Calcutta. The same remark applies to the business men and consuls all over North China, though I do not believe that either of these two classes is making any particular haste in this matter.

For military men and seamen trading with Siberia and Liaotung the utility of Russian is already recognised. On the Japanese vessel which brought me here some time ago, the first officer could speak Russian fluently and I think that some of the officers on all the Japanese vessels trading with Russian possessions in this part of the world have some acquaintance with the same tongue. For army officers both in England and in Japan a knowledge of Russian is becoming more desirable every day; and I believe that the number of Japanese military men and merchants—it is often hard to distinguish between them just now—who are at present scattered all over Manchuria and East Siberia and who speak Russian fluently, is pretty large. The Japanese fishermen of Hokkaido and of the west coast of Japan generally require a knowledge of Russian in order to carry out successfully their fishing (and poaching) enterprises along the coast of Saghalien and Kamchatka, and, of course when any functionary has to be "fixed," as the Americans say, a colloquial knowledge of his language is almost if not absolutely necessary.

With the greater development of the Siberian fisheries and the coast of the Primorsk and Manchuria, the Russian language will, I think, become more extensively known among Japanese.

## RUSSIAN CLASSICS IN JAPANESE.

An article in a recent issue of the *Novi Krai* gives some interesting facts regarding the translation of Russian classics into Japanese. "Soon after the successful campaign of 1894-95," says that article, "the interests of Japan and Russia came involuntarily into contact thanks to a great many causes, and the Japanese began to take up with a good deal of zeal the study of our country. In the beginning the acquaintance was superficial and did not go further than Vladivostok and Kuantung, if we do not take into consideration the small number of Japanese who went across the Urals to prosecute their study of the Russian language, that is who went to great towns like Petersburg, Kieff, and Odessa. The Japanese first became interested in Russian literature through translations from that literature into French and English; then they began to study translations directly made from Russian into Japanese. A translation of Tolstoi's *Anna Karenina* was received in Japan with great enthusiasm. Then the *Tokyo Nichi-Nichi* attempted a translation of Gogol, but the translation did not show Gogol's humour and fell far below the original. Gogol's *Taras Bulba* was next translated (it is difficult to explain, by the way, why the Japanese translation is entitled *Primitive Instincts*), but strange to say, some great Russian authors like Dostoevsky are quite neglected. Both Tolstoi and Gorky were carefully translated and well annotated some time back, and the Japanese were greatly taken by the original philosophy of the latter."

## THE RUSSIAN LANGUAGE IN CHINA.

The Chinese do not read the Russian classics at all but, owing to a series of events that do



not need to be recapitulated, they are now in better position, in the Manchurian Provinces at all events, to learn colloquial Russian than the Japanese. It must be added that they have profited by this circumstance. The Russian journal in Port Arthur boasted the other day that whereas when the Russians came here first they experienced great difficulties on account of the Chinese knowing no Russian, almost every Chinese one now meets with in Port Arthur has a sufficient acquaintance with that language to understand and to make himself understood.

This statement has been confirmed by my own experience, which has made it clear to me that if we take the proportion of Chinese in Port Arthur who know Russian, and the proportion of Chinese in Hongkong or Singapore who know English, we find that, in spite of the comparatively recent arrival of the Russian, the proportion in the former case is larger than it is in the latter.

The explanation of this lies, I suppose, in the colder nature of the Englishman. The Russian treats the Chinese more as a man and a brother. The other day I saw a Chinese emerge from a sailors' reading-room in a dazed condition and with the appearance of having quite recently parted company with his pig-tail. I do not doubt that in exchange for that cherished appendage he had acquired almost instantaneously some vigorous Russian idioms which it takes ordinary foreigners a long time to memorise. The common Russian soldier and sailor takes a rough but kindly interest in the local personification of the Yellow Peril. I have seen a squad of soldiers passing a Chinese carrier and every man on the side next to the cart gave poor John a shove and a poke. John bore it all laughingly and responded in Russian which was fluent if not classical. These soldiers meant no more harm by their "shoving" than does the average British or American schoolboy, and the Chinaman got a good opportunity of practising his Russian. Judging by its results, this system of learning languages is, indeed, worth the attention of our Gouins and Berlitzes. Such exchanges of courtesies frequently occur between the conquerors and the conquered here, and if John Chinaman happens to get knocked down or to receive a resounding whack, the laughter on both sides is redoubled. Why should it be otherwise? This style of humour has been popular among the common people of all nations since the dawn of history, and perhaps to an even greater extent before the dawn, and the British Music Hall is a standing memorial to its popularity among moderns.

The Russian soldier does not get much pay, but his heart is large and the crowds of beggars, counterfeit and genuine, that hang around the soldiers' barracks here testify to his generosity. In barracks, however, he is generous in his corporate capacity, on the march he is generous as an individual. You see soldiers on the Siberian railway give part of their loaf to a Chinese beggar and manifest delight if their gift is appreciated.

I bring all this in to show that the Chinese has unique opportunities for learning Russian. In other words, his conqueror fraternises with him freely. You sometimes see Russian soldiers shaking hands with Chinese "boys" in the street. If a choleric old Indian colonel saw one of his men behave like this he would probably have an attack of apoplexy on the spot. But the Russian language seems to have attacked not only the "boys" and the coolies but also the country people.

Five miles from Port Arthur I have met peasants ploughing the soil and fishermen carrying nets, able (the men, not the nets) to converse in Russian, and beggar lads able to make clear to the passing stranger the alleged fact that they had had nothing to eat for an indefinite period of time. Of course the language they speak is pidgin Russian. For instance a boy says *Nyet, Kooshkoosh* instead of *Ya Ne Kushal* (I have not eaten anything); and on the whole, they have made of Russian the same amusing systematic hotch-potch which they have made of English and French.

On the other hand there are not, I think, as many Chinese capable of expressing themselves in choice, scholarly Russian as there are Chinese capable of speaking, reading, and writing fine English; and I think that it will be some time before we shall have Chinese savants deeply versed in Russian literature.

## ALLEGED INTIMIDATION OF A REFORM JOURNAL.

### THREATS OF BANISHMENT.

Some three months ago a new Chinese daily newspaper was established in Hongkong to advocate the views of the Reform Party. Its name is the *Shai Kai Kung Yik Po* (*The World's News*), and it is printed and published in Gough Street. Since the inception of this newspaper it has made itself a force both in Hongkong and China, especially in Canton, to which some 1,500 copies were being despatched daily up till a week ago. From first to last the journal has been bold and outspoken in its advocacy of the principles of Reform; its articles nevertheless have been marked by a breadth of tone and a solidity of reasoning that have appealed, it is said, even to many Chinese who do not belong to the party of which it is the mouthpiece. This was the position of matters until about ten days ago.

It should be said that *The World's News* is run by a company duly registered in Hongkong, and that there is a directorate controlling the general business of the company. Among the directors are men of all shades of Reform belief, mild and violent. When the concern was set ageing, the general principle was laid down that the paper was to be the apostle of Reform, nothing apparently having been stipulated as to the extent to which this apostleship should go. In other words, the directors, as in other newspaper companies, were to be the business managers, leaving the tone of the paper's policy, which already had been generally resolved upon, to the discretion of the editor. Nothing was more natural than that the man selected for this responsible position should be one whose writings had already made him and his views known to the persons who chose him. Such was the case here.

A Chinese gentleman who had worked and written for many years in the cause, and who was then in Japan, was invited to take the situation of editor-in-chief. He did so. His personal views were perfectly well known to the directorate, for they had been frequently enough expressed, and it was not surprising that the journal soon began to be a reflex of the man. He was a vigorous writer. His articles were looked forward to with anticipatory pleasure by his readers. They constituted, indeed, the feature of the paper, which as time went on became more and more popular and a greater force than ever among the Chinese community here and in Canton.

But, as is only too well known, Chinese Reformers who openly profess their principles even under the protection of a foreign flag never feel safe from the revengeful arm of their own Government. Recent events have shown clearly, too, that that Government's wrath is directed especially against those who interest themselves in Reform propaganda through the medium of the far-reaching daily journal. In the case of *The World's News* it would appear that the same subtle underminings that method have been employed by the Chinese authorities in other similar instances were brought into play. Wherever the bomb came from, it at any rate fell into the camp. One of the directors of the paper who, we are informed, had not been originally remarkable for the mildness of his views, suddenly evinced antagonism to the spirit which pervaded the leading articles appearing from day to day and protested against their continuance. The other directors declined to give way on the point, and at that time, or subsequently, endeavoured to buy out this man's rights in the concern. He refused to be bought out, however, and in the end he went to the company's solicitors and laid information to the effect that the paper was publishing seditious articles. At his request, we believe, the matter was reported to the Colonial Secretary, who sent it on to the Governor, who referred it back to the Registrar-General's office for report. In the result, after investigation, the manager and publisher of the paper were summoned to the Registrar-General's office and severely reprimanded for having allowed the articles complained of to appear, and threatened with banishment from the Colony in the event of similar articles being published again.

Needless to say, the directorate had no alternative but to abandon the policy their

paper had been established to advocate, a policy which they rightly or wrongly declare to be perfectly legitimate and fair, and no more strenuous in its tone than that of the English journals in Hongkong when discussing Chinese internal affairs. The action of the Hongkong Government has created much indignation among a large proportion of the Chinese community, in whose eyes it appears to be an unwarrantable interference with our vaunted liberty of the Press, and an act of intimidation that cannot be justified.

We give below a translation of one of the articles complained of:—

### A SONG,

#### Giving briefly a Sad Account of the Ten Days in Yeung Chow.

The fall of the leaves of the Ng Tung palm trees tells that autumn has arrived. In wandering into all sorts of reflections, one cannot help from being sorrowful. Though I have lived for the period of thirty years, I feel myself greatly ashamed that I have not accomplished any subject successfully. It is pitiful that heaven does not grant me my wish, though I have a high spirit. As all the hairs of the brave, who have encountered every opposition, have been easily turned gray. As I am not so powerful as a dragon-captor what can I do to remedy the present state of affairs? I therefore composed this song to give an account of Yeung Chow in former times. I am afraid that my song cannot draw much attention and admiration, and that, moreover, such an account of things will easily give birth to idle talk and jealousy. I commence to say something about the wandering rebels who made disturbance in every part of the Chinese Empire. Li Chong Chi Sing, who was to be greatly condemned, wanted to take possession of the throne. Emperor Tsung Ching consequently committed suicide by hanging himself at the back of Mui-shan. The Ming dynasty was thereby completely overthrown. As the calamity of ruining the then dynasty was brought about by the people of the same blood, to whom shall we lay the blame then? In fact, the people of alien blood, who have come over to be sovereigns over us, are our enemies. D—Sam Kwai, the beast, who cared nothing of what would happen in future, why did he introduce snakes into the house to steal the chickens? If it was not he who invited them to come over, how dared they to interfere with our own clan fights then? He was ignorant of the importance of integrity, so that he wrongfully surrendered himself unto them. The Manchurians consequently took the opportunity to rush in large numbers to invade our country. They marched all over Shun-chow, which was completely ruined by them. All the wise Chinese people were forced to enter their service like horses. When they had won the battle, they crossed the river and marched southward. Heaven did not bless the then dynasty, the royal power of which had already faded. The then dynasty was unable to retain not one half of the whole Empire. In an incredibly short time the Pa-Yeung River fell into their hands and Kwa Chow was also captured by them, so that it was difficult to maintain the Empire's integrity. Sz-ho-fat, who led an army, to oppose them, was unsuccessful, so that he was forced to retire to Yeung-chow. Being the only one royal and anxious for the integrity of the Empire, he placed his soul at the mercy of Heaven. As the event proved, it could not avail. Every place was overrun with Manchurian soldiers, who at last approached to the gate of Yeung-chow city and insisted upon capturing the city. As shell after shell was thundering into the city, it was impossible to stand their force, though the city wall was thick. Suddenly they broke into the city and the people were massacred, with blood streaming like a river. Do you understand that they continually butchered the people for ten days? They committed illegal marriages, and cruel acts, which caused ghosts to cry, and gels to mumble. The aged and the weak of the whole city were unable to make their escape. It is painful to bring it into remembrance. Within the ten days over eight hundred thousand persons were decapitated. With reference to the above statement, I beg to relate the circumstances. The cruel butchering of the people was never so severe as it was then. Who knows the real circumstances at that time?



A Shau-foi surnamed Wong who was a personal sufferer was the relator of the sad occurrence. His family consisted of nine members, who all met with the same fate. Three out of four of his brothers were killed. He himself had been several times severely tortured by the Manchurian soldiers, who demanded gold as blackmail. When one had been satisfied, another would come forward to make the same demand. He therefore took refuge in a heap of rubbish to pass away the ill hours. His wife made her escape and concealed herself in a coffin. She was dragged out and forced to yield to the outrageous wishes of the Manchurian soldiers. She and her husband pleaded earnestly to set her free, saying that she was pregnant. She was not set free till she was undressed and examined. Hearing the groans and cries of the butchered, the heart was broken. The burning flames at night time cast a strong red glare on the sky and made one to tremble. On the tenth day he was very hungry and thirsty. He had narrow escapes several times and yet survived. If he could successfully pass the tenth night, he had hope of life. He therefore bore all the hardship till the fifth watch, when some voices were heard near, that an order of wrapping up the knife was given to pacify the people in the whole city. As he had made good his escape from the mouth of the tiger, he was anxious to make a record of the sad occurrence to let it be known to the people in future so that we know something about it at the present day. Such sad occurrences were not only met with in Yeung-chow alone, but Kwangtung also met with the same fate at that time. Two Manchurian princes, who marched with soldiers to Kwangtung, met with some opposition. They consequently gave orders to butcher all the people within eighteen  $po$  (= $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles). Happily the people who were smart enough at that time numbered and named the streets after  $po$ , so as to save many lives. Reflection of such sad accounts is very painful. If you say the present dynasty is kind and beneficent you are quite mistaken. We should all understand that for the people of alien blood to be sovereigns over us is not right. We should wake ourselves up. If we want to revenge old sufferings, we should overthrow the present pretending dynasty and drive away all the Manchurians.

#### LIMITED MONARCHY GOVERNMENT.

Another of the articles complained of is as follows:—

China cannot adopt a limited monarchy government. The whole territory of the Chinese Empire will soon be lost and the whole number of 400,000,000 Chinese will soon be all slaves. It is very pitiful that we are to meet with such a terrible fate. Some enthusiastic people then commence to say that China should adopt a limited monarchy government, which only can save China from being broken into pieces. The Manchurians, who have taken possession of the whole Chinese Empire and rule over 400,000,000 Chinese, are now exceedingly weak and powerless and are in obedience to the white people. Though the governing body were composed of able people who were even much cleverer than Bismarck, it would be very difficult to find means for the remedy. We can at once tell how hopeless it is to make China powerful as the officials are at present people of no brain and no warm blood. Instead of finding means for the remedy they try to butcher the reformers and effect the capture of the scholars in Japan, who fought against the Manchurian concession. They only sit down with folded arms to see the partition of China by the natives of Europe and America. They care nothing for the people and only seek to protect the name of the present dynasty permanently. They fail to see that China, though large, will be soon all eaten up bit by bit. The people, we are afraid, are still ignorant that the partition of China will have terrible effects and that the so-called Reformers, who propose a limited monarchy government, still believe that the Manchurian government can be relied upon. The Manchurians, who seized the opportunity of the rebellion in the Ming Dynasty, have taken possession of the Chinese Empire for over 200 years. They are now going to sell the whole territory and the 400,000,000 people to the foreign countries. They are really our great enemies. We

therefore should wake ourselves up for independence, raise the standard, and seize back our old territory for the honour of our country, so that the people of a land 4,000 years' old will no longer be looked upon as a nuisance in the world. Still, those who propose a limited monarchy government want to regard themselves as Tartar slaves and as Manchurian horses and cattle. They should ask themselves, Does the Manchurian Government ever think of a limited monarchy government? Is she able to carry on a limited monarchy government? A limited monarchy government gives the right to the people to suggest the rules of government. With regard to the Kwangsi rebellion and questions of Russia and Manchu agreement, the scholars in Japan who spoke about these have been regarded as rebels, so that from this we know that to adopt a [Manchu] limited monarchical government is most absurd. In fact, those Reformers who propose such a limited monarchy are the real offenders who ruin the Chinese Empire.

#### DAY OF INTERCESSION AT S. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL.

Last Sunday was the Day of Intercession appointed to be observed in all the English Churches throughout Christendom. Accordingly special services of intercession were held in S. John's Cathedral. The Lord Bishop of Victoria preached the sermon, taking for his text S. Paul's Epistle to the Romans x. 13 15. The Right Reverend preacher said that 31 years ago the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, supported by deputations from other societies, waited upon the Archbishop of Canterbury, with a request that he would set apart a day for special intercession services for foreign missions. In accordance with this request His Grace appointed the 30th of November to be observed for that purpose in all English churches. On the morning of that day, in 1872, the London Times in a leading article made these remarks on the subject of mission, aries: "Who is there who can number among his personal acquaintances a man who has done years, or a single year, of Church Missionary work in any field? An ordinary Englishman has seen almost every human or brute native of foreign climes, but few can say that they have seen a missionary or a Christian convert." Such criticism as this, remarked the preacher, displayed the greatest ignorance of the truth, and such newspaper criticism was most unworthy, and such as no newspaper ought to lend itself to, as it would not, certainly, do now. But though there is a great change now, there are many found to criticise, who many more take but a very languid interest in missionary work, for they do not study the subject, and do not know that missionary work is the primary duty of the Christian Church. Bishop Hoare then touched upon the object of missions, pointing out that the Gospel of Salvation, which we all knew, the heathens and infidels and the ignorant had a right to know also, and it was the Church's bounden duty to go to all parts and preach that Gospel. People were found to say that the Chinese religion was good enough. This was true, and there was much that was admirable in Confucianism and Confucianists, but there was in it no hope, and the erring sinner had no one to pray to, nor to hope for intercession from. Some, again, valued missionary work only as a civilising agency. True it was so, but salvation, to S. Paul, was the greater object. Throughout the Gospel the ruling command was to carry "the glad tidings to all," that all might know that this world was not the end—that there was a life beyond. But there was a great laxity in the interest shown in this work by those who called themselves Christians. Here in Hongkong, what is done for this work? asked the preacher. Schools, choirs and church works were supported, and even generously supported, but what did Hongkong do for missions? Too little. People were too prone to cry, But what is done by missionaries? The Bishop went on to say a few facts would show what was done. The results were in reality very great. To take the province of Fukien alone, in the past year there had been over 1300 baptisms of converts, and in the eight months since his return he had

administered the sacrament of confirmation to 1000 converts. Here in Hongkong, in Kowloon, and on the mainland of China, congregations of native Christians were springing up and becoming self-supporting. But there was a wide field, and aid was needed to go further to reach those farthest away from such light—the aid of prayer, of funds, and of sympathy, and these were being asked on that day in all the churches in Christendom.

#### RECLAMATION WORK ON PRAYA EAST.

##### WORK COMMENCED.

It has long been decided to reclaim that large portion of the harbour lying between the pier jutting out in a line with Arsenal Street and the west end of Causeway Bay. This will indeed mean a big addition to the City. The east end of Hongkong will be changed beyond recognition. The now water front, commanding a view of the harbour, may be shut off by rows of stately buildings. Storage godowns, finding themselves in more or less inconvenient situations, may move their premises. Perhaps, even, shipyards, engine-works, etc., not finding it essential for the welfare of their business to have their works centrally situated, yet finding it very expensive, to say nothing of their being a long way from a water-frontage, may shift further out. Messrs. Geo. Fenwick and Company's big sheer-legs, for instance, will soon be useless as now situated. Ah King's yacht anchorage will be all dry land. Who knows but what another Queen's Building, will take the place of that primitive little matchstick backing the slipways? Where now the shipwright is busily employed putting the finishing touches on little Chinese-built steamers, where the newly launched hulls are towed to receive their engines, where happy-go-lucky sampan people dry matchwood picked up from the harbour, where craft that answer the purposes of cook-houses, dwelling-houses, passenger-sampans and fishing boats, tie up, will be all dry land. Hongkong Island will have grown in useful building land both internally and externally: now useless hilly property will have been levelled. The Bowington Canal will have grown in length. Probably it will be a centre for the completing of small steam-boats. All this we may look forward to. Work in connection therewith has been commenced.

Coolies are now employed raising the road two feet on Praya East. For some days a sign has been exhibited giving notice that the road is blocked between Queen's Road terminus of Arsenal Street and Ship Street. The Public Works Department seem to be working as they never did before; the laying of the electric tram-rails has hastened matters. It would have been senseless to put them down when, in the near future, it would have been found necessary to lift them again in order to raise the road. But talking about raising the road, at first sight one would carry away the impression that, after it is raised, heavy storm waters will cause serious floods, perhaps even collapses of houses. It appears from a casual glance that the houses on the present water-front will simply be inundated. Careful enquiry into the matter, however, discloses that no want of forethought has been displayed in this direction. Water-ways nearest the houses are to be provided with efficient drains capable of giving an outlet to all that is likely to come their way. These storm-water discharges will go under the road. As the road is raised, electric car-lines will be laid. Rickshaws will be at a discount. A large army of coolies will find other employment. More than likely many of them will be employed filling in the reclamation. Raising the road, after all, is only preparatory to this. Trams will be running long before the reclamation is finished. In fact, they will be running in a matter of months; the reclamation will take a few years.

Mr. J. Carey Hall, M.A., I.S.O., who has for many years been British Consul at Kobe, has been presented, on his transference to Yokohama, with an address by the residents of Kobe congratulating him upon his well-earned promotion and upon the distinction recently conferred on him by the King in recognition of long and meritorious service.



## NEW TERRITORY NOTES.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

30th November.

## SAN ON.

Chan Leong-kit, the ex-Namtau Magistrate, returned from his crusade against the robbers some time ago. His soldiers have been returned to their regiments. Chan Leong-kit, it is said, will not take up his old appointment. Rumour has it he was obliged to pay \$4,000 to the Viceroy to retain his rank. Really, however, none of the local Chinese seem to know the exact facts surrounding his case.

## AGRICULTURE.

The paddy is not yet wholly cut. The recent rains delayed progress somewhat. Grain in Shamchun at present fetches from \$2.50 to \$3.00 per picul—133 lbs. The barley patches are beginning to show green, but to a Westerner's idea the Chinese sow the barley too thin. A commencement to cut the sugar-canes may be expected as soon as the last of the paddy has been secured.

Some disease, probably rinderpest, has broken out at Chuk Un village, in the Santin district, B.T. About 30 cattle have died within a very short time. The Colonial Veterinary Surgeon is going out to make investigations.

## POLICE.

The N.T. Police will lose an able and conscientious officer in the present A.D.S.P., Mr. E. R. Hallifax, who leaves to take up a new appointment in Hongkong. Mr. Hallifax has made himself very popular with the men in charge of the various stations to whom he has characterised himself as a just and considerate superior. Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe, from the Land Court, relieves Mr. Hallifax.

## CANTON.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 30th November.

## THE EMPRESS DOWAGER'S BIRTHDAY.

On Saturday H.E. the Viceroy gave a banquet to the Consular Body and some of the Customs officials in honour of the Empress-Dowager's birthday. Unfortunately the state of H.E.'s health did not permit him to be present. The chair was taken by the Tartar General, who is a member of the Imperial family. This gentleman toasted the Empress in a speech which was rendered into English by Mr. Wen the Viceroy's interpreter. The United States Consul-General replied and was followed by the German and French Consuls, whose speeches were ably translated for the benefit of the Chinese officials. An excellent Chinese dinner was served up in foreign style, and the whole affair passed off very successfully.

## A HAPPY ESCAPE.

The following true story is a tribute to foreigners in China, showing as it does that the Chinese believe that justice can be obtained at their hands. Some time ago a young girl was kidnapped up country and sent down on a launch to Canton to be sold to the usual people who indulge in this traffic. The poor girl, while on her journey down, was bemoaning her evil lot, when an old countryman informed her that if she took refuge in the place where the foreign community live she would be rescued from her guardians. The Shameen was described to her as an island on which were built vast houses in the foreign style, and the girl recognised the place when she was out for a constitutional with her guards. No sooner had she arrived opposite the entrance to the British concession than she made a dash for liberty, and avoiding the sentries whose duty it is to prevent unwarrantable intrusion, she sought refuge in the first foreign house available. Her pitiful tale was listened to with sympathy, and she was consigned to the British constable for safe keeping. This gentleman put her under the protection of his wife, and awaited developments. Sure enough, ere long the old couple who had brought her down to Canton arrived on the scene and asked for their poor daughter, whose loss they professed to be lamenting. The constable induced them to come inside, saying that he was sorry to hear of their sad loss. Once inside the premises he, however, changed his attitude, and the couple were sent

to gaol, while the maiden was returned to her home, where doubtless the good deeds of the *fan kwai* will be long remembered. This tale with its happy ending has excited considerable interest in Shameen.

[FROM ANOTHER CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 2nd December.

## RAISING MONEY.

It is said that the Chinese authorities at Canton intend to charge ten per cent. on the winnings of the Wai Sing and other lotteries as a contribution to the military expenses. This order was sent to the officials of the Bureau of Reorganisation to be carried out. While the Bureau was deliberating, the monopolist of the Wai Sing lottery, by name Lo, appeared and interrupting the assembly said: "If you want to charge ten per cent. on the winnings our company has no objection to pay; but please issue a notification to that effect as soon as possible." The officials demurred, and did not know what to do, for fear of disturbance; and up to now this question remains unsettled.

## AO SUN.

The Kwangsi rebels sent emissaries to Kwangtung to invite the notorious brigand chief Ao Sun to go to Kwangsi to be their chief, and the latter, it is said, has accepted the arrangement and will start thither soon.

## FOOCHOW.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Foochow, 28th November.

## FOOCHOW ARSENAL.

The report in my last letter that the contract made by M. Doyère with Messrs Racine, Ackermann & Co., the French-Chinese firm in Shanghai, would be repudiated is confirmed. Temporarily, at any rate, the Chinese authorities have definitely refused to recognise any portion of it. I understand the French Consul from Shanghai is now at Pagoda Anchorage going into the matter, and M. Doyère has been requested to stay pending his enquiries. The only Englishman on the staff, referred to in my letter of the 4th inst. as engaged by M. Doyère, has resigned at the request of the present authorities, but expresses every satisfaction with his treatment at their hands.

## OFFICIAL IN TROUBLE.

The Amoy *Tai-tai* has been here for some days now. It is currently reported that he and others have been denounced to the Throne on a charge of unscrupulous squeezing, and for certain transactions in the camphor monopoly contrary to treaty regulations.

## MINING EXPEDITION.

Very little news has filtered through of the expedition referred to in my letter of the 2nd ult. for exploiting this province for mines, etc. But I understand that the French expert, who is due back here shortly, laments that if mines of any real value were found the nature of the country would make a railway impossible and transport exceedingly difficult.

## BURNING OF S.S. "ARNOLD LUYKEN."

No little excitement was caused by the report which reached here at noon on Tuesday last, 24th inst., that a large oil steamer was on fire near White Dog Rocks, about 15 miles from Sharp Peak. The representative of the Langkat Oil Co. here received a telegram from Amoy about 8.3 p.m. giving the name of the ship as above. Your readers will have heard all the subsequent particulars which have reached us here. Turnabout Island, where the survivors were rescued, is about 47 miles from Sharp Peak.

## A.D.C.

The A.D.C. commence rehearsing *Our Boys* next week, and it is hoped Mr. Balloch may be back in time to act, at any rate as our stage manager.

## SPORT.

The griffins are still disappointing, and we are almost within a week of the Races, but none of the old ponies are going strong, and with a new consignment of a very promising kind from Shanghai we are looking forward to some good racing. It is still feared that we shall be short of jockeys.

The first game of hockey will be played on Monday. Ladies and men are playing together owing to a thinning of the ranks of both in last season's players.

## ARRIVAL.

H.M.S. *Vestal* arrived here from Shanghai on the 26th inst.

## PORT ARTHUR.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Port Arthur, 18th November.

## MILITARY CHANGES.

A good deal of activity is going on here at present in military circles. I noticed five new regiments arrive here from the north yesterday. They were the 23rd, 27th, 28th, 32nd, and 168th; all of them East Siberian Regiments, so that we have now here, in addition to the above-named, the 2nd, 5th, 14th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, and 13th at least. Quite a considerable number of Japanese gentlemen seemed to arise out of the earth on the appearance of these troops, which they followed at a respectful distance, displaying on the way such a keen interest in the geology and botany of the district through which they passed that their object was, I presume, purely scientific. The Russians did not seem to notice them. I do not know if all the above regiments are here on only a part of some of them, but it is very doubtful in any case if Russia ever keeps here a very large force, which would only be a source of weakness instead of strength on account of its tendency in case of siege to exhaust the stock of provisions and increase the danger of sickness while not adding to the strength of the place, which could be perfectly well defended by a garrison of 20,000, including the fortress infantry. Chaplains have been appointed to the 26th, 27th, and 28th East Siberian Regiments, which are referred to as the regiments "newly formed in Port Arthur." On the 18th of October the Vladivostok fortress infantry regiments were incorporated, the 1st with the 29th, and the 2nd with the 30th East Siberian Sharpshooters.

## COREA.

The *Vostochny Vestnik* says that on the 30th October and the 14th November, a sale of land took place at Sanchejen in the foreign settlement at Gensan, 38 lots in all being sold. Japanese got 20 lots and Russians 18, a lot situated along the sea-shore falling to the agent of the Chinese Eastern Railway Steamship Co.

## RUSSIAN KEROSENE.

According to an Odessa paper, the negotiations of the Japanese Consul in Odessa, Mr. Izima, with the oil-manufacturers at Baku, concerning the direct export to Japan of Russian kerosene, have not ended satisfactorily. The firms of Nobel, Mantasheff, Shabaeff, and others have told the Consul that until the lapse of the term of their contracts with foreign agents, they cannot undertake the direct exportation of kerosene to the Far East.

## THE "NOVI KRAI."

The *Novi Krai* is to be made a daily paper on the 1st of January next, about which time the new English and Chinese papers published in connection with it are to appear. The establishment of a Chinese paper in Russian is an especially good idea. Colonel Artemieff is to be congratulated on his business capacity, the fruits of which are seen in the best newspaper in the Russian Far East.

## OPENING OF A SCHOOL.

On Sunday last the Viceroy opened a *Realty*, or Professional School, and a Girls' Gymnasium in the presence of a large number of officials and leading residents.

## NEWS FROM CHITA.

The latest and most important news from the prosperous Siberian centre, Chita, is that the students of the local seminary have been forbidden to read the local papers. The local Press revenges itself in two words—"comment superfluous."

## TRADE IN VLADIVOSTOCK.

Vladivostock sent a deputation to the Viceroy on the 31st October to complain about the way Port Arthur is ruining them by its free trade. The Viceroy told them that the people of Port Arthur would probably be sending him a deputation with the same story a few years hence. His Excellency probably meant that a natural reaction to the present building mania is sure to set in here in the near future. The money market has lost its fluidity in consequence of all the cash available being sunk in houses and



more put by for a rainy day, and what occurred in Hongkong in 1849 (when the cost of administration in that colony was \$25,000 a year and the receipts not above \$12,000) is pretty certain to occur here also. In fact all the leading business men here are, I think, unanimous on that point.

Speaking of Hongkong, the Russians are displaying the same anxiety for the afforestation of their new but decidedly bare-looking acquisition which was once displayed in Hongkong, and I think they could not do better than examine the system of afforestation which has wrought such a complete transformation on the once bare hills of the southern island.

#### TO MAKE OFFICERS WELL-READ.

The Russian General Staff has, according to the *Bery Vyed*, taken a singular step for the purpose of enabling poor officers to keep abreast with the times in regard to general and professional literature. It has made an arrangement by which such officers can obtain any book they like from the army book-store without having to pay for it until after the lapse of one year.

#### THE RUSSO-CHINESE BANK.

According to the *Vostochny Vvestnik*, the transfer of the director of the local branch of the Russo-Chinese Bank, M. A. A. Maslennikov, to the directorship of the bank in Port Arthur (decided upon, it is said, in consequence of the desire to establish in the city wherein resides the Viceroy, the representative of the Emperor in the Far East, a representative bank) is, it appears, postponed, in view of the fact that the branch at Port Arthur is not quite independent, being subordinate to the Shanghai branch of the bank, a condition of affairs which M. Maslennikov find undesirable and injurious.

#### CHINESE EASTERN RAILWAY.

The Chinese Eastern Railway has just concluded with the Chinese authorities of the provinces through which the line passes the right of working and exploiting any of the hitherto neglected coal deposits. The agreement between the company and the Government is already in force and the railway company has begun to work some of the mines. The work is conducted under the direction of M. Kalistratoff, an engineer, but where and at what distance from the railway the mines are situated is not stated.

## SUPREME COURT.

Tuesday, 1st December.

### IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THEIR HONOURS SIR WILLIAM M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE) AND A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

#### APPEAL CASE.

Ip Ting, a marine store dealer, who was sentenced on 10th September last to three months' imprisonment for feloniously receiving three steel keys value \$60 and four shovels value \$6, he well knowing the same to have been stolen.

Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. O. D. Thomson, solicitor), appeared on behalf of the appellant, and the Attorney-General, Sir Henry S. Berkeley (instructed by Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Crown Solicitor), was for the respondent.

The Attorney-General took a preliminary objection to the hearing of the appeal, as he had intended to base that objection on two grounds—that the appeal papers filed did not comply with the requirements of the Police Magistrates' Ordinance, No. 10 of 1900, and that the documents were filed too late. He found, however, with respect to the second ground, that although the time allowed by the Ordinance was exceeded three times over, it was occasioned by the act of the Court—the act of the Registrar, for the time being—who refused to receive the documents into Court. Whether he was right or whether he was wrong it was not necessary to put before their Lordships.

The Chief Justice remarked that, in certain cases the Vacation Ordinance provided that any time running in the Vacation did not count.

The Attorney-General said he would not press the point, and asked that the appeal be

dismissed without being heard on the ground that appellant failed to comply with the requirements of sections 104 and 105 of the Magistrates' Ordinance of 1890.

The Chief Justice—You mean he ought to have applied for a motion for a rehearing?

The Attorney-General replied in the affirmative, remarking that instead of doing so the appellant applied for leave to appeal to their Lordships. The case came precisely within the principle of the case decided by the Chief Justice in August 1902—*Chan Chi and others v. Sergt. William Murison*. By section 105, an appeal on a question of fact shall—the words were imperative—be by way of motion for rehearing. No such motion was before the Court, and the other side had committed the whole error in the case before the Court in 1902.

Mr. Slade submitted the appellant had complied with the section quoted by the Attorney-General, and said that in all cases of appeal from the Magistrate on the question of fact it was laid down that the appeal should be a rehearing.

The Chief Justice—Your actual motion is wrong, you know. You cannot argue that. The question is whether we shall still hear you. I have given a formal judgment in this same Court, in a similar case.

Mr. Slade—I think that judgment—I am speaking from my meagre recollection—was not based on this point.

The Puisse Judge—It was.

The Chief Justice—Yes, though there were other points as well. The only question I have to consider—I will read you what I said on that occasion: "The Chief Justice said that on the question of fact the motion appeared to him to be defective. It was not in compliance with section 105 of the Magistrates' Ordinance. In his opinion the proper form was to apply to the Court that the Court will be moved to re-hear." Your motion should have been a motion asking the Court to re-hear, not for leave to appeal, because that has already been given by the Magistrate.

Mr. Slade said he quite agreed, and he was really applying for a re-hearing, because an appeal could only be by way of re-hearing and for which leave would have to be given by the Court.

The Chief Justice said he did not have to ask for leave to appeal, but to move that the Court re-hear, and on that motion they had to decide whether he showed sufficient ground for them to grant it. If he did then they granted a re-hearing. It was wrong to come to the Court and say he asked for leave to appeal by way of a re-hearing.

Mr. Slade—I most thoroughly agree with your Lordship, but as far as substance goes it is substantially right.

The Chief Justice—It is substantially wrong; you may ask us to amend.

Mr. Slade—If your Lordships will do that there will be no further question.

The Chief Justice—We are not going to allow these motion papers to continue to be filed in the Court.

The Attorney-General—I doubt the power on this Court to amend a motion.

The Puisse Judge—He is only going to ask that it be done.

The Chief Justice said there was a difference between the two cases. In the former, permission for leave to appeal by way of re-hearing on fact and law was asked for, whereas the present one should have been a re-hearing on fact. It was exactly what was done wrong on the former occasion.

Mr. Slade observed that they simply asked for an appeal by way of re-hearing.

The Puisse Judge—You don't want leave to appeal; you have got that.

Mr. Slade—We have not got leave to appeal by way of re-hearing. These are two distinct things.

The Chief Justice—If you ask us to amend we will consider that. I am certainly not going to try the case on this motion paper.

Mr. Slade submitted there could be no question of misunderstanding this appeal. The Attorney-General, the Crown Solicitor, Mr. Murison (the respondent), everybody connected with the case knew exactly that it was intended to come to the Court to have a re-hearing. That was what was asked for.

The Chief Justice—Your motion paper asked for two things. First, you asked for leave to appeal, and, secondly, as to how this appeal is to come on, viz.—by way of re-hearing. You

say you ask for leave to appeal by way of re-hearing.

Mr. Slade—Exactly so.

The Chief Justice—You have no right to ask for leave to appeal.

Mr. Slade—I ask for a re-hearing. That is what I come here to ask for and, substantially, that is what is asked for.

The Chief Justice—The question is whether you ask us to amend the motion.

Mr. Slade—Yes, my Lords, I do.

The Chief Justice—I shall not grant anything in the unamended form. In a former judgment I refused to do so.

The Attorney-General submitted that the Court had no power to amend at the present stage, as they must strictly conform to the requirements of the statute which provided no reservation as to amending notices.

Mr. Slade said that that was another point. It did seem extraordinary that the Crown should attend and try to practically juggle away a man's liberty by words—by opposing an application of this kind upon which a man's liberty depended. It was rather extraordinary.

The Attorney-General—The Crown cannot, by consent, give jurisdiction.

Mr. Slade—The Crown has deliberately waived one objection which it had on this matter.

The Chief Justice—There is perhaps nothing in the other objection.

Mr. Slade—Yes. It has been one of the most difficult questions your Lordship would have had to decide. The Crown is willing to waive that question, and now raises a purely technical one for the purpose of preventing this appeal, which involves a man's liberty. There can be no question of unfairness.

The Puisse Judge—Cannot you understand? Supposing the Crown had not raised the question, we must tell you you are not to dispute our orders, I should have taken objection.

Mr. Slade agreed that the Court would undoubtedly have taken the objection because it had already been decided. He was surprised, however, that any objection was taken to an amendment, and proceeded to argue that the Court had power to deal with it.

The Chief Justice, in intimating that he would like to hear the Attorney-General on the point, felt bound to say that, while he must insist on having a motion paper in proper order, and had already carefully considered the proper form in a judgment in a former case, in August 1902. He did not wonder the case might have been forgotten because the rules governing appeals from the magistrates were very different from those from the Puisse Judge. There had been a slip and it was no use discussing the matter. The present application was for leave to amend the motion paper by striking out the words "for leave to appeal by way of rehearing," and putting: "to rehear." He was rather disposed *prima facie* to allow the amendment of the motion paper, as he did not wish to have a case in which a man had been sentenced to imprisonment settled one way or the other simply on the question of the exact form of the wording of the motion paper.

The Attorney-General said he would like to consent, but it seemed to him that an amendment, even if in order, would be futile, unless the Court not only ordered the amendment but, disregarding the statute regulating appeals, ordered that the amended notice need not be served and the amendment and service be taken together. Supposing the notice, which was clearly irregular and bad, was amended. What then? The respondent would be entitled to say that the notice must be filed and served, and when the Court heard the case its attention would be drawn to the fact that the notice for a re-hearing, instead of being filed within ten days from the decision of the magistrate, as required by statute, was filed two months after. There was an essential difference between the Court exercising its ordinary powers of amendment in its original jurisdiction, and the exercise of its—

The Chief Justice—I fully appreciate that point.

The Attorney-General proceeded to draw their Lordships' attention to the case of the *Queen v. The Justices of Glamorgan-shire*, Q.B.D. Law Reports, 24, p. 375, which, he said, was the leading case to show that the Court was bound hand and foot in hearing an appeal from the Magistrates. The statute gave the appellant the right to go before the



Court, and the Court had no jurisdiction outside of that conferred upon it by statute. After the moment that ten days elapse when the appellant had not filed a motion for re-hearing their right of appeal was gone, and the Court, by amending the form of motion six weeks or two months later, could not give him back the right because, unless they applied within ten days, the right was gone, and could not be resuscitated and brought to life. Baron Huddleston, in dealing with the point, said that in a criminal matter of appeal everything had to be performed even to the last condition. In the present case the right to appeal had gone, and he regretted he was forced to take the objection. He was bound to do so, however; he was bound to bring within the knowledge of the Court the fact that it had no jurisdiction, and the Court should not be prepared to act without jurisdiction. At one time he was very doubtful as to whether he should take the objection; but they were not concerned with the merits of the case. The question was purely a technical point, and he submitted the Court must uphold its procedure. It could not blow hot and then blow cold.

Mr. Slade said that the case quoted by the Attorney-General did not in any way turn upon the question before the Court, and only decided that if an appellant did not enter into his recognisances within the time limit his power of appeal was gone. He submitted that they had power to amend, and that, in substance, the notice of motion asked for leave to appeal was unnecessary and should be struck out of the application. Then the motion contained in the application for a re-hearing had been served in due time, and if amended was good service.

The Chief Justice said the objection taken by the Attorney-General was valid and must be upheld. Any person wishing to appeal from a decision must look for some statute giving him the power of doing so, and closely follow the terms of the statute and see that every condition precedent to the appeal was strictly and properly complied with. A person who had obtained a decision, whether it was the Crown or the subject, in the Court below, had a perfect right to benefit by the application of that decision, unless it was reversed on appeal, and the Appeal Court could not reverse that decision unless all the preliminary requirements were complied with. It was more than fifteen months since the question came before the Court in almost the same terms—as to whether a motion was filed asking for leave to appeal by way of re-hearing on questions of fact and law.

If they amended the motion paper before them they would be allowing a motion paper already held to be inaccurate and wrong to be just as good for practical purposes as an accurate motion paper, and when once they began admitting such irregularities they would be getting themselves into great difficulties because they would be told that in such and such cases certain glaring errors were made and the Court allowed certain amendments to be made—that was, assuming the Court had power. He did not propose to give any absolute decision on the question as to whether the Court had the power to amend as a Full Court dealing with an appeal by a special statute, but he pointed out that there were plenty of cases in England where, if an amendment had been allowed, the appeal would have been heard which the Court, however, absolutely refused to hear. He quoted the case of the King v. the Justices of Oxfordshire, decided in 1823, reported in the Barnwell and Creswell's Reports, page 273, and afterwards pointed out that they were not starting technical objections to appeals because such objections had always existed. Unless parties complied strictly with the act the Court could not make proper motion papers for them. Therefore, with regret—for it was with regret—he must hold the objection as fatal, and the Attorney-General objecting to the amendment he did not consider the Court should negative it.

The Puisne Judge agreed, and said it seemed to him if they allowed the amendment to the motion they would be stultifying themselves altogether. Little more than a year ago they held what were the proper and correct terms of a notice of motion. If they were going to amend that he did not know where they were going to end. If the mistake was one of the first they might consider they had the power to amend.

The appeal was dismissed with costs.  
The Court adjourned.

Thursday, 3rd December.

#### IN BANKRUPTCY.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR WILLIAM  
M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

#### AN ABSCONDING DEBTOR.

Mr. E. J. Grist, solicitor, appeared in support of a petition by Hop Wo Chan for adjudication on the estate of the Chy Loong firm. He stated that he also appeared for the Official Receiver (Mr. Bruce Shepherd).

His Lordship—There has been no public examination; how is that?

Mr. Grist said he had filed an affidavit that morning to the effect that they had been searching for the debtor, who apparently had absconded. The reason for bringing the matter on so quickly was that the assets were very small, and, as the bailiff was in possession, the assets were being run away with.

His Lordship—Where is the affidavit you are speaking of?

Mr. Grist—I understand it was filed this morning.

The Registrar (Mr. A. Seth)—I have not seen any affidavit.

Mr. Grist said there was an affidavit in support of the application made by himself, to the effect that a meeting was held at the Land Office on the 27th November at which it was resolved that the debtor be adjudged bankrupt, that the Court be asked to adjudicate on the estate, and that Mr. Bruce Shepherd be appointed receiver. This application was made under section 19.

His Lordship remarked that what was in his mind was that section 15 provided that as soon as may be after the making of a receiving order against a debtor a general meeting of the creditors should be held. Section 17 said that as soon as may be after the time for filing the statement of affairs the Court should hold a public sitting for the examination of the debtor and the debtor should attend and be examined. He quite understood that in this case that could not be done as the debtor had absconded. But he wanted to have some reason shown why a public examination had not been held.

Mr. Grist—I understood that the affidavit had been filed.

The Registrar—It has not been filed.

Mr. Grist—Perhaps your Lordship will make an order subject to the affidavit being filed?

His Lordship made a receiving order accordingly.

In reply to his Lordship,

Mr. Bruce Shepherd said he had no objection to that course being taken; he had made enquiries himself, and these people were not to be found anywhere.

#### NO PUBLIC EXAMINATION.

Mr. Grist also appeared in support of a petition, *ex parte* the debtor, for adjudication on the estate of Pun Wo.

His Lordship—Why has he not been examined publicly?

Mr. Grist said it was because there had not been time. The object in bringing the case on was that the debtor's goods were in the hands of the Official Receiver and were of very small value, something like \$50 or \$60. They wanted power to sell the goods as the bailiff was in possession and that was running away with the estate.

His Lordship made an order subject to an affidavit as to assets being filed.

#### AN UNFORTUNATE BICYCLE BUSINESS.

Robert Aloysius Collins applied for a receiving order and to be adjudged bankrupt.

Mr. O. D. Thomson, solicitor, who appeared on his behalf, stated that the petitioner's liabilities of \$2,000 were incurred in connection with the bicycle business that he formerly carried on. He had incurred no debts in his present business. There were old debts which he was not able to wipe off at present. The debtor informed him that he hoped to be able to pay them off in full in the course of a few months.

Mr. Collins was called and put into the witness-box.

His Lordship—I suppose the idea of applying for a receiving order is to prevent some action that is being taken against you?

Mr. Collins—Yes; it is protection that I am seeking.

Mr. Thomson—You have had judgment given against you?

Mr. Collins—No; but I understand there is a case pending.

His Lordship said he could not see his way to make an order unless he saw substantial assets lodged.

Mr. Thomson undertook that \$500 assets would be paid to the Official Receiver, and on that understanding his Lordship made a receiving order, to take effect after the payment of the money.

The Court adjourned.

#### HONGKONG.

On the 1st inst., being the birthday of Queen Alexandra, the warships in harbour were all dressed and a salute was fired at noon.

The appointment of Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe as Assistant Superintendent of Police and magistrate in the New Territory is notified in the Gazette.

The health return for the week ending the 28th November shows that there was only one instance of communicable disease in Hongkong, that being a case of smallpox in the Chinese district.

The many friends of the Rev. R. F. Cobbold, formerly chaplain of St. John's Cathedral, will be glad to hear that he has been appointed to Beachampton Rectory, Buckinghamshire, the patrons of which are Gains College, Cambridge.

Commodore Dicken, who succeeds Commodore Robinson in his post here, will leave England, accompanied by Mrs. Dicken, by the P. & O. mail in Christmas week, relieving Commodore Robinson early in February next, when the latter's term of office expires.

Mr. J. Dyer Ball, Chief Interpreter in the Supreme Court, met with a nasty cycling accident on Saturday. While he was riding along Causeway Road a coolie ran into his bicycle and he was thrown heavily to the ground, sustaining severe bruises on the face and arm and a shock to the system.

With reference to the Canton Regatta on the 18th and 19th inst., at which we understand both the local rowing clubs are likely to be represented, a Challenge Cup has been presented by Mr. T. E. Griffith of Canton for a four-oared race open to the Canton and Hongkong Rowing Clubs, to be rowed for in Canton. The cup is now on view at the establishment of Messrs. Falconer & Co.

The mortality returns for August are published in the Gazette. Being so much out of date, they are of little interest. We presume there is some special reason for this more than wonted delay in publication. The returns show a total of 495 deaths, 26 of which were in the European and foreign community (22 civilians, 4 Army) and the rest Chinese. 29 deaths are due to plague and 17 to malaria. The average death-rate per 1,000 per annum was 26.2 in the British and foreign civil community, 18.8 in the Chinese community, and 18.6 in the whole civil population.

The Reclamation Works at Kowloon are proceeding apace. Ballast-junks are continually employed dumping rock to the eastward of Blackhead's Pier, while ashore the "toy" railway train, with its wooden tracks, makes several journeys daily. Coolies are employed removing a portion of Flagstaff Hill. The back portion of this, however, is to be left standing. The precipice will probably be secured against landslips by a retaining wall. The slope at the back will make it possible for the military, if it ever be necessary, to run up guns to a position commanding the harbour.

On Thursday night, under the auspices of the above club, another Quadrille Club dance was given at the Masonic Hall. The rooms were tastefully decorated with tropical plants and bunting, and the floor was in excellent condition for dancing, which was kept up with spirit until the early hours of the morning. It was altogether a most enjoyable function, and the Committee of the Club are to be congratulated at the success of their efforts. Mr. H. W. Wolfe, the President, and Mr. Geo. J. W. King, the Hon. Secretary, looked after the comfort of the guests.



## COMMERCIAL.

## TEA.

YOKOHAMA, 16th November.

Tea.—The total settlements to date amount to 190,400 piculs, against 178,700 piculs for corresponding date last year.

## SILK.

YOKOHAMA, 16th November.

The Raw Silk market continues very depressed, in the presence of heavy supplies and small demand, and prices rule irregular. Filatures "Grand Extra" are scarce, and hold their own at or around yen 1,100, while inferior grades of re-reels are competed for by native manufacturers at yen 900 to 910 for Common 3.

Prices for Waste Silk and Cocoons have weakened considerably, and buyers are not very keen on business; holders are sellers. Settlements 2,030 piculs, viz.:—Noshi, 550 piculs; Kibiso, 1,300 piculs; Sundries 100 piculs; Pierced Cocoons 80 piculs. Present stock is estimated at 11,050 piculs, viz.:—Noshi, 2,900 piculs; Pierced Cocoons—piculs.

CANTON, 19th November, 1903.—Re-reels.—Business has been very quiet and only a purchase of 20 Bales each 1 & 2 Yee Wo Hing's White Ticket at \$770 is to be reported. Filatures.—No important business has taken place during the fortnight under review. Some sales have been made from which we quote. Quan Wo On 9/11 at \$920 King Tack On 10/12 at \$885, etc. In "native" some business has taken place from which we hear of Soey Wo Cheong done at \$785 average for 11/13; 13/15, 14/18. Short-reels.—The market has ruled rather quiet for these kinds and some few sales only have to be reported from which we quote:—Hau King Lon, Sai Sill Lun at \$900, Tien Po Hang at \$890, etc. Waste Silk.—Continues quiet and few sales only have been made.

SHANGHAI, 2th November.

Messrs. A. R. Burkill and Son's in their Circular dated 26th of November report as follows:—The home markets are a little easier. Gold Kiling is quoted in London at 12/6. Raw Silk.—There is no business to report in Teatles, Kiahings have received small attention. Yellow Silk.—A small business only to report, prices remain unaltered. Hand Filatures.—A settlement of about 200 bales New Style has been made for New York at Tls. 765 average, but the usual style Filatures are neglected. Steam Filatures.—A few small purchases have been made at prices given below. Waste Silk.—Market quiet; Seychuen Frisonets whole bales @ 28.

Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s in their report of the 26th ult. state as follows:—Japan:—The natives have now apparently on their hands more of this article than they know what to do with, and it is quite impossible to dispose of any quantity, as most of their holdings are of the common kinds. The only feature in the trade is that of making the yearly contracts for 1904, most of which have been concluded. Rates of freight have remained very much the same as when last writing, perhaps a slight decline with a weaker tendency. Cardiff is still without much enquiry; we have heard of the sale of a small cargo now on the way having been disposed of to Japan, but no terms which are apparently private. Sydney Wollongong:—This market is very weak with no possible tendency of improvement. The sailer *Woolung* arrived on the 25th instant with 1,000 tons which have been sold to some outside dealer at, we hear, Tls. 12.00 ex ship. We are pleased to be able to record a decided improvement in our Homeward Freight Market as far as regards the quantity of cargo offering for London and the Continent; the last couple of boats on the berth have literally had to turn away cargo and the next boats to load are already fully engaged. However, the tea-season is drawing to a close and we do not expect this very satisfactory state of affairs to last very long. The London Conference line have just issued a new freight tariff, and we would draw the attention of shippers to a few slight changes in the rates, viz., the rates for Silk Piece Goods and for Pongees made from wild silk have been put on a sterling basis of 80/- a ton for the former and 70/- for the latter, whilst valuable furs and skins will be charged 14% *ad valorem* or 45/- per ton of 40 cb. ft. at ship's option; furthermore increased facilities are being giving to shippers in the way of transshipment cargo to near Eastern Ports.

## COPPER.

YOKOHAMA, 16th November.

With the exception of 200 tons Marukata, which have been taken out of the market for China or India, no transactions have taken place during the past fortnight.

## SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 4th December.—No demans having come forward, prices are declining.

|                              |                  |      |
|------------------------------|------------------|------|
| Shekloong, No. 1, White..... | \$8.55 to \$8.80 | pc's |
| Do. " 2, White.....          | 7.45 to 7.50     | "    |
| Do. No. 1, Brown.....        | 5.90 to 5.95     | "    |
| Do. " 2, Brown.....          | 5.90 to 5.95     | "    |
| Swatow, No. 1, White.....    | 8.40 to 8.45     | "    |
| Do. " 2, White.....          | 7.35 to 7.40     | "    |
| Do. " 1, Brown.....          | 5.75 to 5.80     | "    |
| Do. " 2, Brown.....          | 5.60 to 5.65     | "    |
| Foochow Sugar Candy.....     | 12.80 to 12.85   | "    |
| Shekloong ".....             | 10.70 to 10.75   | "    |

## RICE.

HONGKONG 4th December.—The prices are going upward, marked being weak.

|                                      |                  |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| Saigon, Ordinary.....                | \$2.95 to \$3.00 |
| " Round, Good quality.....           | 4.60 to 4.65     |
| " Long.....                          | 4.75 to 4.80     |
| Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2..... | 3.50 to 3.55     |
| " Garden, " No. 1.....               | 4.30 to 4.35     |
| " White.....                         | 4.80 to 4.85     |
| " Fine Cargo.....                    | 5.25 to 5.30     |

SAIGON, November 20th.

Messrs. W. G. Hale & Co., in their report dated 20th ult., state:—Quite a lively demand has, during the past fortnight, prevailed for France, thus causing the sale of almost all the remaining stocks of old grain. What may be now left cannot amount to much. Our new crop continues to prove a promising one. Overtures have already been made by Europe buyers for new rice, but prices named by Saigon millers are far too high yet to allow of business. The first costs per picul of 134 lbs gross, without duty, commission, or other charges, are as follows:—

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| No. 2 white unsifted (ordinaire) steam milled (mixed)..... | \$3.50 |
| 5 % Cargo steam milled (mixed).....                        | 2.20   |
| 10 % " " " " " ".....                                      | 3.00   |
| 20 % " " " " " ".....                                      | 2.85   |

The total export up to date is 7,608,800 piculs as against 11,767,200 same period last year, a total of 1,768,900 piculs having been sent to Hongkong.

Exports to Hongkong for the month of white rice, cargo rice, and paddy were:—October 29th, s.s. *Anpho*, 10,400 piculs; November 10th s.s. *Laertes*, 3,800 piculs; November 19th s.s. *Tritos*, 300 piculs. The total export (all countries) was 88,000 piculs.

## OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 3rd December.—

|  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| Quotations are:—Allowance net. to 1 catty. |                           |
| Malwa New.....                             | \$920 to \$940 per picul. |
| Malwa Old.....                             | \$970 to \$990 do.        |
| Malwa Older.....                           | \$1,020 to \$1,040 do.    |
| Malwa V. Old.....                          | \$1,080 to \$1,100 do.    |
| Persian fine quality.....                  | 810 to — do.              |
| Persian extra fine.....                    | \$820 to — do.            |
| Patna New.....                             | \$1,165 to — per chest.   |
| Patna Old.....                             | — to — do.                |
| Benares New.....                           | \$1,165 to — do.          |
| Benares Old.....                           | — to — do.                |

## COTTON.

HONGKONG, 4th Dec.—Limited amount of business done at an advance of \$1 to \$1½. Stock about 1,500 bales.

|   |                |       |
|---|----------------|-------|
| Bombay.....                               | 25.00 to 26.00 | picul |
| Bengal (New), Rangoon }<br>and Dacca..... | 26.00 to 28.50 | "     |
| Shanghai and Japanese.....                | 30.00 to 31.00 | "     |
| Tungchow and Ningpo.....                  | 30.00 to 32.00 | "     |

Sale:—250 bales.

## YARN.

Mr. P. Eduljee says in his Report, dated Hongkong, 4th December:—A very disappointing fortnight has been experienced in this market, as with the completion of the harvest a demand from the country was confidently expected. The firmness of holders and unfavourable reports from the consuming districts, consequent on the continued unsettled condition of the country have, however, contributed chiefly to the present restriction of trade, and settlements have been limited to actual daily requirements; prices showing a slight advance of one to two dollars per bale. The annexed quotations are the equivalent of prices ruling in the interior and must be considered purely nominal, as holders now refuse to sell except at an advance of \$3 to \$4 per bale. Dealers, on the other hand, do not appear to follow sellers up in their advance for higher prices, and having no outlet for their purchases show little or no inclination to buy, and can afford to wait further developments. Business meanwhile has come to a standstill, but the market closes strong in sympathy with advancing rates wired from Bombay.

Local Manufacture:—No sales reported, demand having temporarily subsided owing to closing of the Northern Ports, the chief outlet for the article.

Japanese Yarns:—Neglected throughout.

Raw Cotton:—In Indian descriptions the fluctuations on the other side have been reflected here chiefly in New Crops, and rates have advanced from \$1 to \$1½ per picul, business of the fortnight comprising 220 bales New Bengal Superfine at from \$27 to \$28, leaving a stock of 550 bales on the market. Some parcels of old cotton amounting to about 550 bales have been shipped off to Japan. In China kinds sales of 150 bales Ningpo at \$30½ are reported. No stock. Quotations are Indian \$24 to \$29 and Chinese \$27 to \$32.

Exchange on India has continued to decline and closes weak to-day at Rs. 128½ for T/T and Rs. 129 for Post; on Shanghai 7½ and on Yokohama 8½.

The undernoted business in local and imported spinning is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ended the 20th ult., viz:—

Indian:—Total sales 8,000 bales comprising 60 bales No. 6s, 3,550 bales No. 10s, 430 bales No. 12s, 830 bales No. 14s, 300 bales No. 16s, and 2,800 bales No. 20s, prices continuing firm and market closing steady. Estimated un-sold stock about 28,000 bales.

Japanese:—Total sales 3,000 bales on the basis of Tls. 84 to 89½ for No. 16s and Tls. 91½ to 95, rates showing an advance of Tls. 1 to 1½ in No. 20s and market closing firm.

Local:—A small business aggregating about 2,500 bales has been put through on the basis of Tls. 86 for No. 14, Tls. 84½ to 89½ for No. 16s, and Tls. 91½ to 95 for No. 20s, market closing quiet but steady.

## [MISCELLANEOUS IMPORT.

During the week ending Saturday the 21st instant inclusive, as per Custom House returns are:—

|              |             |         |
|--------------|-------------|---------|
| Devoes.....  | nil.....    | Gallons |
| Russian..... | 30,000..... | "       |
| Sumatra..... | nil.....    | "       |
| TOTAL.....   | 30,000..... | "       |

Messrs. J. N. Murray & Co. in their Piece Goods Trade Report of 26th November states as follows:—The interval has been almost devoid of anything of interest to our market, the combination of adverse circumstances recently experienced, and already dilated upon, still continuing to exert a restraining influence on the trade. With the despatch of the last steamers for Newchwang a quieter feeling prevailed for a few days, very little hope being entertained that Tientsin would follow the lead of the neighbouring Port. Recent direct advices, however, although somewhat conflicting, seem to point to a slightly improved situation there. The system of payment by bank order is being reverted to and some business is going through successfully. On the other hand many of the Merchants complain that they have not received payment for goods sent into the country under the credit system, and therefore are unable to buy more at present. At all events it seems that at last there is some chance of the chaotic state of things so long prevailing in the market there coming to an end, though whether it will enable any quantity to be cleared from this before the closing is extremely doubtful. Future prospects are evidently more encouraging to those on the spot, however, as we are credibly informed direct orders have been booked for the Spring for fair quantities of goods. The River will probably close with the next neap tides, about the 10th December. The firmer quotations for exchange this morning, both for immediate and up to the end of year, has caused a renewal of enquiry; the strength of the home market has made holders very firm; and for forward business prices are soaring rapidly out of reach. Quotations for most goods coming at prohibitive rates as they appear at present. But if the shortage in the Cotton Crop as estimated should eventually be confirmed it is difficult to see where the limit in the advance will be, as there must be a big margin still in favour of imported Cotton goods and the export value of Silk, their only possible substitute. The report that an extra steamer was being loaded for Newchwang, as mentioned by us last week, must have been unfounded, at least we have failed to find such a boat amongst the clearances. If there had been sufficient cargo, and there certainly was a great rush for space at the last moment, it would have been quite safe to despatch one, as the Port is expected to be free for navigation up till tomorrow according to latest advices. The Manchester market has strengthened again in sympathy with Cotton, and smaller receipts. Latest quotations are 6.08d. for Mid American and 8½d. for Egyptian. Most enquirers find that manu-



facturers are not only asking much higher prices but can only quote for late delivery. Here and there with special makes, however, it has been possible to get small parcels through for reasonable shipment. The orders booked for the Spring trade cannot be much more than a third of the customary quantity—of American makes probably not even so much. In the latter nothing further has been possible. There is no particular change in the position of the River markets or Ningpo. Clearances are only moderate, but the dealers are paying up for fair quantities of goods against which they had settled Exchange forward on the sliding scale that has been in vogue for some time now.

## HONGKONG QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 4th December.

|                              |                |
|------------------------------|----------------|
| Beans .....                  | \$3            |
| Borax .....                  | \$18/19        |
| Camphor (China) .....        | \$— 95         |
| " (Formosa) .....            | \$— (No stock) |
| Cassia (First quality) ..... | \$23           |
| " (Second " ) .....          | \$15½          |
| " Oil .....                  | \$180          |
| Cloves .....                 | \$16 @ 33      |
| Fennel Seed Oil .....        | \$325          |
| Galangal .....               | \$3 @ 6        |
| Garlic .....                 | \$— (No stock) |
| Glue .....                   | \$28           |
| Grapes .....                 | \$19 @ 22      |
| Ivory .....                  | \$300 @ 650    |
| Kissmiss .....               | \$18 @ 22      |
| Olibanum .....               | \$10 @ 27      |
| Rosa Oil .....               | \$100/175      |
| Saltpetre .....              | \$11 @ 12      |
| Sandal wood .....            | \$28/32        |
| " Oil .....                  | \$40 375       |
| Senna Leaves .....           | \$7            |
| Sugar Candy .....            | \$11           |
| Vermilion .....              | \$87½          |
| Wax .....                    | \$44/48        |

## MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per M.M. steamer *Manche*, sailed on 1st Dec. For Marseilles: —6 bales raw silk, 100 bales waste silk, 13 cases silk, 5 bales hair. For Lyons: —253 bales raw silk, 10 bales waste silk. For Havre: —150 packages tea.

HANKOW, 25th November. — The prices quoted are for the net shipping weight excluding cost of packing for export: —

|  | Per picul. |
|--|------------|
| Cowhides, best selected (Winter cargo) Tls             | 32.00      |
| Do. seconds .....                                      | 27.00      |
| Buffalo hides, best selected .....                     | 22.00      |
| Goatskins, untanned (chiefly white colour) ..          | 64.00      |
| Buffalo Horns (average 3lbs. each) .....               | 10.75      |
| White China Grass (Wuchang and/or Poochi) .....        | 11.70      |
| White China Grass (Sinshan and/or Chayu) .....         | 10.75      |
| Green China Grass (Szechuen) .....                     | 11.50      |
| Jute .....   | 5.00       |
| White Vegetable Tallow (Kinchow) .....                 | 11.20      |
| White Vegetable Tallow (Pingchow and/or Macheng) ..... | 11.00      |
| White Vegetable Tallow (Mongyu) .....                  | 9.50       |
| Green Vegetable Tallow (Kiyu) .....                    | 14.60      |
| Animal Tallow .....                                    | 11.00      |
| Gallnuts (usual shape) .....                           | 19.00      |
| Do. (Plum) do. ....                                    | 20.50      |
| Tobacco (Tingchow) .....                               | 6.80       |
| Do. (Wongkong) .....                                   | 11.00      |
| Black Bristles .....                                   | 118.00     |
| Feathers (Grey and/or White Duck) ..                   | 19.00      |
| Turmeric .....   | 8.60       |
| Sesamum Seed .....                                     | 3.80       |
| Sesamum Seed Oil .....                                 | 7.60       |
| Vegetable Tallow Seed Oil .....                        | 7.60       |
| Wood Oil, .....  | 7.60       |
| Tea Oil .....  | 8.00       |

## EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, 4th December.

ON LONDON.—

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| Telegraphic Transfer .....             | 1/8½    |
| Bank Bills, on demand .....            | 1/8½    |
| Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight .....    | 1/8½    |
| Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight .....   | 1/9 1/4 |
| Credits, at 4 months' sight .....      | 1/9 1/4 |
| Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight ..  | 1/9 1/4 |
| ON PARIS.—Bank Bills, on demand ..     | 218     |
| ON GERMANY.—Credits 4 months' sight .. | 211½    |
| On demand .....                        | 177½    |
| ON NEW YORK.—Bank Bills, on demand ..  | 12½     |
| Credits, 60 days' sight .....          | 4 1/4   |
| ON BOMBAY.—Telegraphic Transfer 128½   |         |
| Bank, on demand .....                  | 129     |

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| ON CALCUTTA.—Telegraphic Transfer 128 1/2 |             |
| Bank, on demand .....                     | 129         |
| ON SHANGHAI.—Bank, at sight .....         | 71½         |
| Private, 30 days' sight .....             | 72          |
| ON YOKOHAMA.—                             |             |
| On demand .....                           | 84½         |
| ON MANILA.—                               |             |
| On demand .....                           | nominal     |
| ON SINGAPORE.—                            |             |
| On demand .....                           | nominal     |
| ON BATAVIA.—                              |             |
| On demand .....                           | 104½        |
| ON HAIPHONG.—                             |             |
| On demand .....                           | 1½ p.c. pm. |
| ON SAIGON.—On demand .....                | 1 p.c. pm.  |
| ON BANGKOK.—On demand .....               | 61          |
| SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate .....      | \$11.60     |
| GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael .....       | 60 25       |
| BAR SILVER, per oz. ....                  | 2 1/4       |

## SHARE REPORT.

HONGKONG, 4th December, 1903.—A moderate volume of business, mostly at hardening rates, has been transacted during the past week, and a further substantial advance established in Banks.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have been in active demand throughout the week, and the price has risen steadily from \$655 to \$670 with sales at these and intermediate rates; the market closing firm with further buyers at the latter rate. The London quotation is unchanged at £62.10.0d. Nationals are firmer with sales and further buyers at \$30.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have been booked at \$487½, \$490 and \$492½, closing with a few sellers at \$49½. China Traders have been placed at \$60, at which rate a few more shares are wanted.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong are weaker with sellers at \$315. Chinas have been done at \$89 and \$90, and more shares are procurable at the higher figure.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have continued in demand, and after sales at \$30½, \$31 and \$31½ are now enquired for at \$32. Indo-Chinas are firmer with sales at \$75 and \$76 and further buyers at the higher rate. China-Manillas have again been booked at \$18. Douglas has sold at \$30, and a few more shares can be placed. Star Ferries have improved and can now be placed at \$28 and \$18 for the old and new issues respectively. Shell Transports are in the market at £1.3s. 6d. after sales at £1.2s. 0d. and £1.3s. 0d.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have been booked at \$15½. Unions continue on offer at \$10.

MINING.—No business is reported under this head and quotations are unchanged.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks are easier with sellers at \$206. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves have sold at \$90 and \$91, and more shares are enquired for at \$9½. New Amoy Docks are unchanged with sellers at \$38. Farnhams are quoted steady at Tls. 127½.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have been done to a fair extent at \$151, at which rate there are further sellers. Kowloon Lands are quiet at \$35, and West Points at \$52½, with a small sale reported in the latter stock. Humphreys' Estates are firm with buyers at \$11 after sales at this figure. Hongkong Hotels are enquired for at \$146.

COTTON MILLS.—Ewos have advanced in the North to Tls. 34½ buyers, and Internationals to Tls. 25. Hongkongs have been booked and have further buyers at \$15.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Island Cements have advanced to \$24 buyers. China Borneos have been booked at \$3, and Watsons at \$14½ ex the interim dividend of 50 cents per share on account of 1903 paid on the 30th ult. Electrics have been sold at \$12 and \$6½ for the old and new issues respectively, and close with further buyers. Steam Water-Boats can be placed at \$15½ after sales at \$15½ and \$15.60. China Providents continue in request at \$9 to \$9½. Watkins have been done at \$7½, and Powells at \$8.90, the latter closing with further buyers.

MEMO.—China Traders Insurance Co. Ltd. ordina y yearly meeting on the 8th instant. Humphreys' Estate and Finance (C. Ltd.) new issue of capital will be allotted to shareholders on application. Transfer books close on the 17th instant until the 4th January 1904.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

| COMPANY.                  | PAID UP. | QUOTATIONS.                         |
|---------------------------|----------|-------------------------------------|
| Banks—                    |          |                                     |
| Hongkong & S'hai...       | \$125    | { \$670, buyers<br>L'don, £62. 10s. |
| Natl. Bank of China       |          |                                     |
| A. Shares .....           | 28       | \$30, buyers                        |
| B. Shares .....           | 28       | \$30, buyers                        |
| Foun. Shares...           | 21       | \$10                                |
| Bell's Asbestos E. A...   | 21       | \$5, sellers                        |
| Canton, Hongkong Ice      | \$10     | \$10, nominal                       |
| Campbell, Moore & Co.     | \$10     | \$40                                |
| China-Borneo Co., Ltd.    | \$12     | \$8, sales                          |
| China Light & Power       |          |                                     |
| Co., Ltd. ....            | \$10     | \$5                                 |
| China Prov. L. & M.       | \$10     | \$8.25                              |
| China Sugar .....         | \$100    | \$106                               |
| Cigar Companies—          |          |                                     |
| Alhambra Limited.         | \$500    | \$260                               |
| Philippine Tobacco        |          |                                     |
| Trust Co., Ltd.)          | \$50     | \$15, sellers                       |
| Cotton Mills—             |          |                                     |
| Ewo .....                 | Tls. 100 | Tls. 84½, buyers                    |
| International ..          | Tls. 75  | Tls. 25                             |
| Laon Kung Mow ..          | Tls. 100 | Tls. 35                             |
| Soychee .....             | Tls. 500 | Tls. 200                            |
| Hongkong .....            | \$10     | \$15, sales & buyers                |
| Dairy Farm .....          | \$6      | \$12½, buyers                       |
| Fenwick & Co., Geo.       | \$25     | \$47½                               |
| Green Island Cement.      | \$10     | \$24, buyers                        |
| H. & C. Bakery.....       | \$50     | \$40                                |
| Hongkong & C. Gas.        | \$10     | \$140, buyers                       |
| Hongkong Electric         | \$5      | \$12.15, buyers                     |
| H. H. L. Tramways...      | \$100    | \$6½, sales & buyers                |
| k. Steam Water-           |          |                                     |
| Boat Co., Ltd. ....       | \$10     | \$320, sellers                      |
| Hongkong Hotel .....      | \$50     | \$15½, buyers                       |
| Hongkong Ice .....        | \$25     | \$146                               |
| H. & K. Wharf & G...      | \$25     | \$245, sellers                      |
| Hongkong Rope.....        | \$50     | \$90, buyers                        |
| H. & W. Dock .....        | \$50     | \$145, sellers                      |
| Insurance—                |          |                                     |
| Canton .....              | \$50     | \$206, sellers                      |
| China Fire .....          | \$50     | \$175                               |
| China Traders .....       | \$80     | \$90, sellers                       |
| Hongkong Fire .....       | \$25     | \$61, sellers                       |
| North China .....         | \$50     | \$315, sellers                      |
| Union .....               | \$25     | Tls. 200                            |
| Yangtze .....             | \$100    | \$490, sellers                      |
| Land and Building—        |          |                                     |
| Hongkong Land Inv.        | \$60     | \$135                               |
| Humphreys Estate.         | \$100    | \$151, sales                        |
| Kowloon Land & B.         | \$10     | \$11, sales & buyers                |
| West Point Building       | \$30     | \$35                                |
| Luzon Sugar .....         | \$50     | \$52½, sales                        |
| Manila Invest. Co., Ltd.  | \$100    | \$10, sellers                       |
| Mining—                   |          |                                     |
| Charbonnages .....        | \$50     | \$15                                |
| Jelabu .....              | Fcs. 250 | \$60, sellers                       |
| Punjom .....              | \$5      | 50 cents, sellers                   |
| Do. Preference...         | \$11     | \$1.50, sellers                     |
| Baubs .....               | \$1      | 30 cents                            |
| New Amoy Dock .....       | 18/10    | \$8, sellers                        |
| Powell, Ltd. ....         | \$6½     | \$38, sellers                       |
| Steamship Coys.—          | \$10     | \$8.90, sales & buy.                |
| China and Manila...       |          |                                     |
| Douglas Steamship         | \$50     | \$18, sellers                       |
| H., Canton and M.         | \$50     | \$30, sales & buyers                |
| Indo-China S. N. ...      | \$15     | \$32, buyers                        |
| Shell Transport and       | \$20     | \$76, buyers                        |
| Trading Co. ....          | \$21     | \$1.3s. 6d. sellers                 |
| Star Ferry .....          | \$10     | { \$28, buyers<br>\$14, buyers      |
| S. C. F. Boyd & Co., Ltd. | \$5      |                                     |
| Shanghai and Hong-        | Tls. 100 | Tls. 127½, buyers                   |
| kong Dyeing and           |          |                                     |
| Cleaning Co., Ltd.)       | \$50     | \$50, nominal                       |
| Tebrau Planting Co...     | \$5      | nominal                             |
| United Asbestos .....     | \$4      | \$9, buyers                         |
| Do .....                  | \$10     | \$210, buyers                       |
| Universal Trading         | \$20     | \$23,                               |
| Co., Ltd. ....            |          |                                     |
| Watkins Ltd. ....         | \$10     | \$7½, sales                         |
| Watson & Co., A. S. ....  | \$10     | \$14½, ex div., sales               |

## VERNON &amp; SMYTH, Brokers.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. in their share report dated 27th ult. state as follows:—We have had a good business in our principal stocks for the past week, with rates steady in Langkats and Docks, and a firmer market in Indo-Chinas. The T. T. rate is 2/5½. Banks.—H. & S. Banks. No business reported locally, the last quotation from the South is \$642½ and the latest London quotation is \$63. The market for forward delivery is very strong and no cash shares are offering. Marine Insurance.—Transactions are reported in Yangtzes at \$135. Unions are wanted in the South at \$492½, and China Traders at \$60. Fire Insurance.—Hongkongs are offering at \$320 and Chinas at \$90.



**Shipping.**—Indos.—The market opened in the beginning of the week with steady buyers resulting in sales at Tls. 52½ for cash, and 53 for Nov. Sett., rising to Tls. 54½, 54½ and 55 with sales for forward delivery at 53 December, 54½ and 55. For March at 52 and 53½. At closing there are sellers at 55 for December. Shanghai Tugs. Cash shares have changed hands at Tls. 52½. Taku Tugs are offering at quotations. Docks & Wharves.—A considerable business has been done in Farnhams during the week, and the rates have been very steady. The market opened on the 20th with sales for cash at Tls. 125, 127, and 127½ March; 21st 125 November; Tls. 126 December, 23rd Tls. 127 cash, 125, 127 November, 128, 129 December, 129 March. 24th Tls. 127 cash, 129/130 December, 130 March. 25th Tls. 127 cash and November, 128 128½, 129 December. 127½ January, 130 March. 26th at 128½ cash, 128 January, 127½, 129, 128½, 127 and 128½ March. S. & H. Wharves. Business has been done at 212½. Kowloon Wharves are wanted in the South at \$88. Sugars.—No business reported. There is a transaction reported in the South in China Sugars at \$104. Mining.—The only business reported is in Weihaiwei Golds at par. Lands.—Shanghai Lands have been placed at Tls. 103. Hongkongs are offering at \$152. Sales of Humphreys are reported at \$10½. Industrial.—No business reported in Cotton Stocks. Shanghai Gas shares have changed hands at Tls. 108. Paper and Pulp at Tls. 108½, and Shanghai Ices at Tls. 15. Flour Mills are enquired for at quotations. Green Island Cements are wanted at \$22½. Maatschappij, etc., in Langkats. The market opened on the 20th with sales at Tls. 295 cash and Nov. 305, 310, March. On the 21st at Tls. 295, 296, 297½ Nov. 300/301/302½ Dec. 307½ Feb. 312½/315 March. 23rd 297½: 310, Nov. 307½: 310: 312½: 311½ Dec. 320: 322½: 325 March. 24th 300 Nov. 310: 307½, 305: 303½: 305 Dec. 302½ 307½, Jan. 325: 322½: 315: 317½ March. On the 25th 305: 302½: 306½ Dec. 307: 306½ Jan. 317½, 320: March 26th 305 Dec. 317½/320: 377½ March. Sumatras, no business reported. Stores and Hotels.—Hall & Holtz have been placed at \$32 ex div. for cash, Weeks at \$20. Central Stores (ord.) at \$26. Founders Tls. 150. Astors have been placed at \$28 and Hotel des Colonies at Tls. 18½. Miscellaneous.—Shanghai Mercury shares have been placed at Tls. 55. Telephones are offering at quotations. Loans.—No sales are reported in Debentures.

### TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 4th December.—The condition of the freight market during past fortnight has been dull and inactive. From Saigon to Hongkong, 6 cents per picul has been paid for small lots, to one port north coast Java, one port medium sized boat closed at 22 cents per picul: to Philippines, no demand. North coast Java to Hongkong, 20 cents per picul last for dry sugar; to Japan, 26 cents per picul offering for January shipment. Coal freights are weaker. From Moji to this port, \$1.65 to \$1.70 per ton; to Singapore, \$1.80 to \$2.50, being last rates paid; Karatsu to Singapore, one settlement, at \$2.15; to Hongkong, \$1.85; Hongay to Hongkong, 90 cents per ton. Wuhu and or Chinkiang to Canton, some demand in this direction resulting in the fixture of several regular and one outside steamer. 15 candareens for deadweight and 35 candareens for groundnuts. The following are the settlements:—

**Deuteros**—German steamer, 1,001 tons, Wuhu and/or Chinkiang to Canton, 15 candareens and 35 candareens per picul.

**Henley**—British steamer, 1,469 tons, Karatsu to Singapore, \$2.15 per ton.

**Bjorn**—Norwegian steamer, 722 tons, Karatsu to Hongkong, \$1.70 per ton.

An Indo-China S. N. Co.'s steamer, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.75 per ton.

**Pakhoi**—British steamer, 1,227 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.70 per ton.

**Elita Nossack**—German steamer, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.70 per ton.

**Benimohr**—British steamer, 1,935 tons, Moji or Kuchinotsu to Singapore, \$2 per ton.

**Taicheong**—German steamer, 939 tons, Hongay to Hongkong, 90 cents per ton.

**Victoria**—Swedish steamer, 989 tons, Saigon to one port north coast Java, 22 cents per picul.

**Sophie Rickmers**—German steamer, 2,232 tons, three ports north coast Java to Hongkong, 17½ cents per picul.

**Victoria**—Swedish steamer, 989 tons, two or three ports north coast Java to Hongkong, 20 cents per picul.

### SHIPPING.

#### ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

##### ARRIVALS.

##### November—

27, Omba, British str., from Westport.  
27, Sacramento, U.S. trapt., from Manila.  
28, Airlie, British str., from Hakodate.  
28, Chinkiang, British str., from Shanghai.  
28, Coptic, British str., from San Francisco.  
28, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.  
28, Haimun, British str., from Tamsui.  
28, Hongwan I, British str., from Singapore.  
28, Kaifong, British str., from Manila.  
28, Thetis, British cruiser, from Yokohama.  
28, Tjimahi, Dutch str., from Batavia.  
29, Amigo, German str., from Canton.  
29, Bombay Maru, Japanese str., from Kobe.  
29, Deucalion, British str., from Moji.  
29, Deuteros, German str., from Newchwang.  
29, Kong Beng, German str., from Bangkok.  
29, Lyeemoo, German str., from Canton.  
29, Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., from Anping.  
29, Pronto, Norwegian str., from N'ohwang.  
29, Suevia, German str., from Shanghai.  
29, Thales, British str., from Swatow.  
29, Wuhu, British str., from Shanghai.  
30, An Pho, British str., from Saigon.  
30, British Monarch, Brit. str., from N. York.  
30, Changsha, British str., from Kobe.  
30, Cheangchow, British str., from Singapore.  
30, Chiyeun, Chinese str., from Shanghai.  
30, Chunsang, British str., from Sourabaya.  
30, Clara Jebben, German str., from Haiphong.  
30, Euplectela, British str., from Singapore.  
30, Hoihao, French str., from Haiphong.  
30, Humber, British storeship, from Mirs Bay.  
30, Manche, French str., from Yokohama.  
30, Palamotta, British str., from Calcutta.  
30, Phu Yen, French str., from Saigon.  
30, Shantung, British str., from Java.  
30, Tyr, Norwegian str., from Hongay.  
30, Waishing, British str., from Newchwang.  
30, Yawata Maru, Jap. str., from Melbourne.

##### December—

1, Hailoong, British str., from Swatow.  
1, Hermiston, British str., from Foochow.  
1, Keongwai, German str., from Bangkok.  
1, Kumano Maru, Jap. str., from Nagasaki.  
1, Lightning, British str., from Calcutta.  
1, Thea, German str., from Newchwang.  
1, Yuenang, British str., from Manila.  
1, Zafro, British str., from Manila.  
2, Anping Maru, Jap. str., from Coast Ports.  
2, Bramble, British gunboat, from Foochow.  
2, Glusiel, British str., from Foochow.  
2, Hailan, British str., from Coast Ports.  
2, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.  
2, Kohichang, German str., from Bangkok.  
2, Koun Maru, Japanese str., from Kobe.  
2, Kwangse, British str., from Shanghai.  
2, Loyal, German str., from Nagasaki.  
2, Perla, British str., from Manila.  
2, Prometheus, Norw. str., from N'ohwang.  
2, Pronto, German str., from Newchwang.  
2, Salazie, French str., from Marseilles.  
2, Segovia, German str., from Moji.  
3, Akitsushima, Japanese cr., from Amoy.  
3, Britomart, British g-bt., from Mirs Bay.  
3, Canton, British str., from Weihaiwei.  
3, Denbighshire, British str., from London.  
3, Phoenix, British sloop, from Yokohama.  
3, Rinaldo, British sloop, from Yokohama.  
3, Takachiho, Japanese cr., from Yokohama.

##### November— DEPARTURES.

28, Carl Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Hoihow.  
28, Ceylon, British str., for Japan.  
28, Chateau Renault, French cr., for Saigon.  
28, Clavering, British str., for Moji.  
28, Daigi Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.  
28, Eastern, British str., for Kobe.  
28, Gaas, German str., for Singapore.  
28, Hailoong, British str., for Swatow.  
28, Hopsang, British str., for Hongay.  
28, Mausang, British str., for Sandakan.  
28, Nurnberg, German str., for Nagasaki.  
28, Onsang, British str., for Singapore.  
28, Polyphemus, Dutch str., for Singapore.  
28, Rubi, British str., for Manila.  
28, Sabine Rickmers, British str., for Canton.  
28, Sado Maru, Japanese str., for Singapore.  
28, Sh nano Maru, Japanese str., for Seattle.  
28, Trumont, American str., for Manila.  
29, Airlie, British str., for Sydney.  
29, Kwongsang, British str., for Shanghai.  
29, M. Struve, German str., for Haiphong.  
29, Salsdon, British str., for Calcutta.

30, Blenheim, British cruiser, for Mirs Bay.  
30, Chinkiang, British str., for Canton.  
30, Chiyeun, Chinese str., for Canton.  
30, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.  
30, Kwaugtah, Chinese str., for Shanghai.  
30, Pelous, British str., for Nagasaki.

##### December—

1, Bombay Maru, Japanese str., for Bombay.  
1, Deuteros, German str., for Canton.  
1, Euplectela, British str., for Yokohama.  
1, Hailan, French str., for Pakhoi.  
1, Hongwan I, British str., for Amoy.  
1, Laisang, British str., for Calcutta.  
1, Lyeemoo, German str., for Shanghai.  
1, Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.  
1, Manche, French str., for Europe.  
1, Maria Rickmers, Ger. str., for Bangkok.  
1, P. C. Klao, German str., for Hoihow.  
1, Rohilla Maru, Japanese str., for Manila.  
1, Sabine Rickmers, British str., for Foochow.  
1, Siberia, American str., for San Francisco.  
1, Thales, British str., for Swatow.  
1, Tingsang, British str., for Swatow.  
1, Monterey, U.S. monitor, for Canton.  
2, Amigo, German str., for Haiphong.  
2, Cheangchow, British str., for Amoy.  
2, Haimun, British str., for Tamsui.  
2, Hipsang, British str., for Shanghai.  
2, Jacob Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Hoihow.  
2, Mathilde, German str., for Swatow.  
2, Palamotta, British str., for Amoy.  
2, Salazie, French str., for Shanghai.  
2, Suevia, German str., for Hamburg.  
2, Taiwar, British str., for Ningpo.  
2, Thea, German str., for Canton.  
2, Tjimahi, Dutch str., for Shanghai.  
2, Tjipanas, Dutch str., for Singapore.  
2, Trocas, British str., for Japan.  
2, Yawata Maru, Jap. str., for Nagasaki.  
2, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.  
3, Amara, British str., for Karatsu.  
3, Atholl, British str., for San Francisco.  
3, Changchow, British str., for Shanghai.  
3, Changsha, British str., for Australia.  
3, Hailoong, British str., for Swatow.  
3, Hoihao, French str., for Hoihow.  
3, Huron, British str., for Kobe.  
3, Kaifong, British str., for Manila.  
3, Omba, British str., for Sourabaya.  
3, Osborne, British str., for Cebu.

### PASSENGER LIST.

#### ARRIVED.

Per Salazie, for Hongkong, from Marseilles. Mr. and Mrs. Alexandre, Messrs. Binet and Monnier; from Singapore. Mrs. Bollen:ura and child, Revs. Bernardino, Fernando and Pereira; from Saigon, Mr. and Mrs. Poinart. Mr. and Mrs. A. Lang. Messrs. Boyer, Hardouin, Le Bellec, and Willekina; for Shanghai, from Marseilles, Capt. Helleringer, Lieut. Nortel, Messrs. Boutat and Vanara; from Port Said, Mr. Lambo; from Colombo, Messrs. Lazare, Knight, and M. Rosen; from Singapore, Messrs. Hobden and Wecky; from Saigon, Messrs. G. Moereri, Chaiton, Mesmeur, and Villepion; for Kobe, from Marseilles, Mr. Roux; for Yokohama, from Marseilles, Messrs. Bourschwig, Frantz Kluss, Richy, Berick, Fevre, and Gex; from Port Said, Mr. Ablen Jose; from Colombo, Mrs. Day; for Haiphong, from Marseilles, Mrs. Poinart, Mr. and Mrs. Farel, Mr. and Mrs. Grall and daughter, Mrs. Jonquiere, Mrs. Jaubert, Mr. and Mrs. Dufrene, Mr. and Mrs. Moulinais and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Guerneur, Mr. and Mrs. Dufour, Mr. and Mrs. Bondir, Mr. and Mrs. Rochelle and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Berthelot, Mr. and Mrs. Metaillet and child, Mr. and Mrs. Robin, Mrs. Gary, Mr. and Mrs. Joly, Mr. and Mrs. Cardy, Mr. and Mrs. Pauly, Mr. and Mrs. Thierry, Mr. and Mrs. Rantier and child, Mrs. Durand, Messrs. Foures, Bos, Simonin, Duerat, Imbert, Mere, Candelot, Blondel, Binet, Adoné, Pritsch, Ageny, Zarobe, Gilson, Jourdan, Dufrene, Hamelin, Bonnin, Maillet, Fenech, Latrasse, Labourdette, Graziani, Deveanne, Evrard, Montague, Guery, Broumiche, Belat, Laglouse, Courtaux, Gaudox Biff, Gueyguen, Hally, Messager, Aublane, Waibel, Allouche, Pichavent, Dujon, Martello, Dubinson, Foubert, Quatrini, Genin, Raoul Merle, Boisson, and Gary; for Tourane, from Marseilles, Mrs. Brizard and child, Mrs. A. Alerini.

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